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KABUL COMMENTS ON U.S. EFFORTS TO FREE TEHRAN HOSTAGES

LD251928 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Station commentary]

[Text] A number of CIA officials and troops of the United States were [word indistinct] being carried by two aircraft into Iran so they could get to the U.S. espionage nest in Tehran and free the American hostages. As a result of being chased by Iranian Air Force planes, while escaping Iranian territory, the two aircraft collided, caught fire and crashed in the region of Tabas. This report was issued by the military forces of the Iranian Islamic Republic and broadcast by Tehran Radio.

According to international news agency and radio reports, the government of Jimmy Carter has set in motion military provocations against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

As White House spokesmen announced at a press conference last night, it was decided that to free the members of the American Embassy staff in Tehran--who have been accused of espionage against Iran--[word indistinct] had been decided.

Reports indicate that the action was to start from a secret airfield in a desert in Iran. According to a White House spokesman, the operation was aborted because of instrument failure. As a result two American aircraft collided and eight persons [word indistinct] were killed and several American officers injured. The remaining participants in this fruitless venture were transported from the scene.

The U.S. President has taken full responsibility for the episode.

A White House announcement claimed that the purpose of the operation was to reduce international tension. The events in Iran reveal the opposite, however, even though the United States has claimed that differences between the United States and Iran should be solved through talking and not military force.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAWR REVOLUTION CELEBRATED

Decree Pardons 391 Prisoners

JN251817 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] On the occasion of the second anniversary of the Sawr Revolution, Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and president of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, has issued a decree pardoning 391 prisoners. The police general command has communicated this decree to the competent authorities for immediate action.

Foreign Delegations Arrive 25 Apr

GF261736 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] At the invitation of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, high-level government and party delegations from 10 friendly countries arrived in Kabul yesterday. The delegations were warmly received by PDPA Central Committee members, the Revolutionary Council Presidium and the Council of Ministers. The said countries are: Poland, Mongolia, Cuba, Hungary, Kampuchea, Laos, Bulgaria, Ethiopia, Vietnam and the PDRY.

Libyan Minister Arrives

GF271735 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] Libyan Secretary of Islamic Affairs [title as heard] Dr Muhammad Ahmad Ash-Sharif arrived in Kabul at 2200 yesterday at the head of a delegation to take part in the second anniversary of the Great April Revolution.

Karmal Receives Visiting Delegations

GF261735 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, head of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, yesterday received high-level government and party delegations from the friendly countries of Bulgaria, Kampuchea, Cuba, Ethiopia and Hungary. He held friendly talks with them in an atmosphere of frankness.

Further Report

LD272137 Kabul in Pashto to Europe 1730 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, president of the Revolution Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, received the high-ranking government and party delegations of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the PDRY **and** [name indistinct] for a courtesy call at the Revolutionary Council headquarters. He received them one after the other, and talked with them in an atmosphere of friendship and sincerety. The party and government delegations of these friendly countries have come to Kabul to **participate** in the second anniversary of the Sawr Revolution.

Keshtmand Meets Polish Delegation

LD272139 Kabul in Pashto to Europe 1730 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Revolution Council Politburo, vice chairman of the Revolution **Council** and deputy prime minister, received Zdzislaw Kurowski, member of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] Central Committee Secretariat of the Polish People's Republic, who has come to Kabul at the head of a party and government delegation, at his office in the prime ministry this afternoon. They talked for nearly an hour on topics of mutual interest. The members of the party and government delegation of the people's Republic of Poland were also present.

Karmal Attends Anniversary Gathering

LD262000 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1730 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] On the occasion of the second anniversary of the Great Sawr Revolution, a gala party, government and national festive session was held this afternoon at the hall of the Kabul theater and cinema.

Attending were Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee, president of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] Revolutionary Council and prime minister; members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, members of the Presidium and members of the DRA Revolutionary Council and the Council of Ministers; [word indistinct] delegations from the democratic Afghan women's organization, democratic youth organization, workers union, farmers union, religious leaders, [word indistinct] and national and democratic forces as well as ambassadors of friendly countries.

The gathering was opened by reading a few verses from the holy Koran and playing the DRA national anthem. Then Babrak Karmal, in the course of a revolutionary speech, on behalf of the party and the DRA government, welcomed the arrival of the delegations from friendly countries and the [word indistinct] of our great neighbor, the USSR, who, at the invitation of the DRA Government and the PDPA, has arrived in the country of the Sawr Revolution to participate in the celebrations marking the second anniversary of the success of the Sawr Revolution.

Babrak Karmal made a detailed and all-round speech at this national festival on the occasion of the second anniversary of the success of the delivering Sawr Revolution, which was greeted with applause and revolutionary fervor by the audience.

Also, the message from Leonid Brezhnev, CPSU general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Aleksey Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR premier, which was sent to Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, president of the DRA Revolutionary Council and prime minister, on the occasion of the second anniversary of the glorious Sawr Revolution, was read by M.V. Zimyanin, CPSU Central Committee secretary. After that, M.V. Zimyanin made a speech on the occasion of the second anniversary of the glorious Sawr Revolution, and on behalf of the CPSU. The government and people of that country congratulated the party, government and people of Afghanistan on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Sawr Revolution and shed detailed light on the traditional, historic and friendly relations between Afghanistan and the USSR.

The BAKHTAR agency reporter reports that later on Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Secretariat and PDPA Central Committee Politburo member, thanked the Soviet leaders for their message and the friendly expressions of M.V. Zimyanin. The gathering ended with the playing of the DRA national anthem.

The BAKHTAR reporter adds that along the road to the Kabul theater and cinema Babrak Karmal was welcomed by a great crowd of people, including party activists, members of the Afghan women's and democratic youth organizations and social organizations of patriotic people of Kabul who threw flowers, waved the national and party flags and continuously applauded with unprecedented revolutionary feeling.

The PDPA Central Committee general secretary on his arrival at the Kabul theater and cinema was welcomed with applause and revolutionary fervor by members of the Politburo and the Central Committee, members of the Presidium, members of the Revolutionary Council and the Council of Ministers, the delegations from friendly countries and other participants in this gathering.

Karmal's Anniversary Speech, Part I

LD280236 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] Here is the text of the speech of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA], president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Sawr Revolution:

In the name of almighty God, the compassionate and the merciful. Dear compatriots, on behalf of the Central Committee of the PDPA, the Revolutionary Council and the Government of the DRA and on my own behalf, I convey to you, the toiling and Muslim people of our beloved country, revolutionary Afghanistan, my best wishes and congratulations. Just 2 years ago the noble and free people of Afghanistan opened a new page in their (?prideful) history; that is, that the progressive and revolutionary forces of our oppressed country under the leadership of the PDPA, party of the working class and all toilers of Afghanistan, overthrew the government of their oppressors and paved the way for the liberation from backwardness and the creation of a new and just society in our ancient Afghanistan.

We have the full awareness that we are at the start of the road towards the fulfillment of prosperity and well-being of the people of Afghanistan and are taking the first steps. The achievement of the lofty aspirations of the revolution requires time, hard work and labor, but at the present it can be said with confidence that the most important step has been taken; that is, we have entered the path of no return and are confident to build the new blossoming and flourishing Afghanistan.

Dear friends, it is evident that any social revolution is an answer to the complete requirements of the internal evolution of the country in which revolution takes place and is always caused by the objective factors which have reached the proper degree of ripeness. The Sawr Revolution is no exception to this general rule and is a reflection of the need to satisfy the immediate and acute necessities of the internal development of our country. But for the success of the Sawr Revolution, just as for the success of any other revolution, the existence of proper international conditions is also essential. The principal condition in this respect is the new balance of forces in the world, as the result of which imperialism is no longer able to suffocate revolution by means of armed interference and economic blockade. There is no doubt that the existence of such a positive international factor also helped the Sawr Revolution, whish is an inseparable part of the world revolutionary process.

We cordially thank the untrammelled assistance of our friendly and great northern neighbor, the Soviet Union, and other socialist countries as well as all revolutionary parties, movements and forces. And we consider it our duty to safeguard the gains of the Sawr Revolution and to expand and consolidate them and in this way participate in the struggles of all the freedom-loving and revolutionary peoples of the world.

The Central Committee of the PDPA, the Revolutionary Council and the Government of the DRA have paid particular attention to issues relating to the foreign policy of the country and are doing their best to provide (?the best) international condition for the expansion and evolution of our revolution and the achievement of its objectives.

We firmly believe that the improvement of the situation in the world and the region coincides with the basic objectives of the people of Afghanistan and forms the necessary conditions for the realization of the duties of the Sawr Revolution.

Our sincere interest for the solidarity of peace in our activity has been reflected in our activity [as heard] and (?particularly) in active measures of our foreign policy. We believe that the maintenance of peace is in the interests of neighboring countries and peoples of the world. Thus, our foreign policy is not based on selfishness but is based totally on lawful conditions and principles and on the recognition of the interests of the people of the region and the world.

These (?new) basic principles are: principle of peaceful coexistence, which includes cooperation and goodneighborliness with the countries of the region and all countries of the world, based on equal rights; mutual respect for sovereignty; non-interference in the domestic affairs of each other; the territorial integrity; and the right of each nation to determine its path of development.

The principle of nonalignment, which constitutes the traditional principles of the foreign policy of Afghanistan, because Afghanistan has been an active member of this movement ever since its inception and has played a positive and considerable role in this movement. [sentence as heard] By reaffirming our loyalty to the principles of the nonaligned movement we once again resolutely declare that nobody will be allowed to make use of the mutual friendly relations existing between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union--in the framework and in accordance with the cooperation agreement--to weaken the position of the DRA in the nonaligned movement and to create tension and confrontation between Afghanistan and other countries of this movement. The (?full) contingents of the Soviet Union, which have been dispatched to Afghanistan in accordance with the agreement and on the basis of the request of the legal government of Afghanistan, is to help Afghanistan and repulse the foreign aggression. As soon as the efforts of the enemies of our revolution and our country for interference in the internal affairs of our country are halted and the danger of foreign armed aggression on our soil is eliminated, the Soviet military contingent will return to their great country in accordance with the agreement existing between the two countries.

The principle of international solidarity has in the foremost provided for the brotherly relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, as well as all-sided relations of the PDPA with other revolutionary forces.

The PDPA and the Government of the DRA in their activities related to foreign policy rely on the fact that the prosperity and happiness of our people can only be achieved through further consolidation and expansion of brotherly friendship and fruitful cooperation with the great country of the Soviet Union. This friendship and cooperation and (?friendship) [as heard] constitute the basic pillars of the entire policy of the new Afghanistan and is considered as a vital factor in defending our beloved country and the transformations of the Sawr Revolution.

The PDPA and the Government of the DRA attached great importance to the expansion and deepening of brotherly relations with the ruling parties, governments and peoples of socialist countries and looks upon the achievements and victories in the construction of their new societies with appreciation and praise.

The PDPA and the Government of the DRA believe that the Middle East, central and Southeast Asia and the entire region of the Indian Ocean should not be transformed into a (?zone) of war or a zone to threaten the region and the whole of humanity. This firm conviction of ours is not only based on practical experience of international relations but also on principles and values of the holy religion of Islam, a faith which is common to most peoples of Africa and Asia and which emphatically condemns wars and fratricide and the creation of divisions among Muslims. The Islamic Conference, of which Afghanistan, despite the plots and intrigues of its enemies, is one of the founders and active members, is also of the same opinion. At present the Central Committee of the PDPA and the Government of the DRA, for the improvement of the international situation in the region and for the creation of an atmosphere of understanding and confidence--which is needed for the solution of the existing differences on the basis of mutual and full discussion--has embarked upon a series of new positive initiatives. These initiatives and proposals were published a few days ago in the theses of the Central Committee on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Sawr Revolution and we hope that these initiatives will be received favorably. We believe that there are no differences between Afghanistan and the neighboring countries which cannot be solved through peaceful means based on good will and wisdom of (?your) statesmen to the interests of our people.

On the contrary, it is clear to all that intensification and escalation of unfriendly acts, mutual accusation and particularly the efforts to interfere in the internal affairs of each other will inevitably further deteriorate the situation and will have grave consequences.

We are pleased to say that Afghanistan is expanding its international contacts and relations and that the lawful objectives of the Sawr Revolution and the steps taken by the leadership of the DRA in the sphere of foreign policy are increasingly greeted favorably and with better understanding in the world.

The PDPA and the Government of the DRA are strongly determined to do their best and make use of all the possibilities in the sphere of foreign policy at the level of the region and the world for the reduction of international tension and the creation of an atmosphere and spirit of cooperation and confidence in the world. [At this point the announcer states that the second part of the text of the Karmal speech will be carried "in our coming program."]

TASS Report on Karmal's Speech

For a TASS report on Babrak Karmal's speech on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Afghan April revolution, see the South Asia section of the 28 April 80 Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

27 Apr Anniversary Celebrations Reported

GF271820 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] Celebrations of the second anniversary of the April Revolution began in Kabul and the various provinces today. A parade was held in which the various services of the heroic armed forces and the security forces of the valiant Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] took part. Party and social organizations and national and democratic organizations also took part together with thousands of citizens in an atmosphere of joy.

Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA], head of the Revolutionary Council, prime minister and supreme commander of the heroic armed forces of Afghanistan, took part at 0900 today in festivities commemorating this great day in the history of a free, independent Afghanistan. He was saluted by various units of the armed and security forces as well as party and social organizations. He viewed their parade and reciprocated their warm and enthusiastic sentiments.

The celebrations were attended by members of the Revolutionary Council Politburo, Central Committee and Presidium, Revolutionary Council members, ministers, high-level party and government delegations from friendly countries, generals and officers of the armed forces, senior government officials, ambassadors, staff of embassies in Kabul, and thousands of noble citizens.

Before the military parade began, Defense Minister Mohammad Rafi', on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council and the armed forces, congratulated Babrak Karmal and other citizens on the second anniversary of the pride-inspiring and victorious April Revolution. The military parade then began under the command of Colonel Khalil, commander of the central forces. Various infantry, armored, air force and air defense units marched in front of the Revolutionary Council rostrum and in succession saluted the supreme commander of the Afghan peoples armed forces. Meanwhile, a 21-gun salute was fired, and helicopters and jet fighters of the air force flew past.

Amid the cheers and enthusiasm of the free and combative citizens of Kabul, a mammoth march then began. Taking part were party and social organizations, workers, strugglers and peasants from districts of Kabul Province. In a spirit of unity and solidarity, and chanting revolutionary slogans, they marched in succession in front of Babrak Karmal, PDPA Central Committee general secretary. They were followed by members of the women's democratic organization of Afghanistan and the youth democratic organization of Afghanistan, who were carrying the state's national flags and the party's red flags, distributing red flowers and chanting revolutionary slogans. They marched in front of Babrak Karmal and thousands of spectators. They were received with enthusiastic and revolutionary sentiments.

At the end of the celebrations, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, head of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, received members of the Political Bureau, Central Committee, and Presidium, Revolutionary Council members, ministers, senior party and government officials, high-level party and government delegations of friendly countries, and ambassadors resident in Kabul at the Revolutionary Council rostrum. They congratulated Babrak Karmal on the second anniversary of the noble April Revolution.

Decrees Published in OFFICIAL GAZETTE

LD262232 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] On the occasion of the second anniversary of the glorious Sawr Revolution, the decree of the return of the rights of persons has been published and enforced in an extraordinary number of the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

This decree, which includes seven articles, after (?ratification) by the Council of Ministers and the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council, was approved at the Revolutionary Council meeting of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] on 14 March 1980 and has been approved by the president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA.

In accordance with this decree, the rights of all those persons who have suffered losses due to the past unsuitable conditions will have these returned to them.

Also, on the occasion of the second anniversary of the glorious Sawr Revolution, the decree of amnesty and the reduction of the sentences of those accused of non-political crimes has been published in the extraordinary number of the OFFICIAL GAZETTE and has been enforced.

This decree, which consists of seven articles, has been ratified by the Council of Ministers and the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council and was approved at the historic meeting of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA on 14 March, 1980.

The decree has been approved by the president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA.

Our dear compatriots, for their further information, should study the contents of these decrees in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Karmal Distributes Military Promotions

LD262252 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, today distributed promotion cards to a number of military officers who, on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Sawr Revolution, have been promoted to the rank of general.

Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and member of the Secretariat of the PDPA Central Committee and member of the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council, and Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Politburo [word indistinct] and (?some) members of the Revolutionary Council, were present.

Those who have received promotions to the rank of general are as follows:

Lieutenant General 'Abdol Qader, member of the PDPA Central Committee and member of the Revolutionary Council, to the rank of major general;
Mohammad Rafi', minister of defense; Nazar Mohammad, general commander of the air force and air defense force; and Colonel Aqa, general director of the department of political matters of the armed forces, to the ranks of lieutenant general;

[Name indistinct] Zarmal, from the rank of brigadier general to the rank of lieutenant general.

PANJSHIRI DELIVERS KARMAL MESSAGE AT TALOQAN MEETING 25 APR

LD261008 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] A message on the unity of the people and government and the (?unity) of the brother tribes and nationalities of Afghanistan from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, was conveyed yesterday by Dastagir Panjshiri, member of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau and the Revolutionary Council, to the toiling people of Takhar during a meeting. The message was welcomed by the audience with revolutionary fervor.

In connection with the verification of party activities and the realization of revolutionary order of the revolutionary broad masses of Qonduz, Takhar, Baghlan and Badakhshan provinces, [word indistinct] Dastagir Panjshiri arrived in Taloqan yesterday and was welcomed by the provincial committee secretary, members of the provincial and (?local) committees and government officials of the Takhar capital. Panjshiri immediately took part in (?meetings) which were held by the workers, peasants, pupils, teachers and the toiling citizens of Taloqan. After delivering Babrak Karmal's message to the audience, Panjshiri (?made a speech) about the high ideals of the Sawr Revolution, especially after its new development stage. The governor of Takhar also spoke at this meeting, in the course of which (?he expressed his appreciation) for the revolutionary struggle and work of the people of Takhar.

According to another report, Dastagir Panjshiri took part this morning in a meeting at the Spin Zar Company and in a statement exposed the criminal and counterrevolutionary deeds of Hafizollah Amin and his bloodthirsty band. Dastagir Panjshiri, speaking about the importance and the role of the basic principles of the democratic Republic of Iran which recently came into existence, said: These basic principles, for the first time in the history of the social and national life of the people, grant all the tribes, ethnic groups and nationalities of the country an active role in the political and (?economic) life.

According to another report, Dastagir Panjshiri participated in the provincial committee meeting of the Takhar Province, at which time he delivered a Central Committee message to the members of the provincial committee.

SOVIET NUCLEAR MISSILES REPORTEDLY EMPLACED IN AFGHANISTAN

OW270709 Hong Kong AFP in English 0615 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] New Delhi, April 27 (AFP)--The Soviets have equipped themselves with medium range nuclear and high-explosive heads ballastic missiles in Afghanistan and have deployed an estimated 5,000 tanks and armoured personnel carriers on the Iranian border, PTI NEWS AGENCY reported from the Afghan capital today.

Quoting highly placed sources PTI gave two reasons for positioning the missiles and said "Soviets have no effective counter to low flying radar avoiding American cruise missiles which ban be fired from B-52 bombers taking off from the U.S. base in the Indian Ocean island of Diego Garcia.... Hence the medium range missiles are meant as a deterrent".

Referring to the second reason PTI said "the medium range missiles can keep the Americans on their tenter hooks in Iran and in the Persian Gulf, including the Strait of Hormuz, controlling entry to it".

Observers in Kabul explain that ballistic missiles could be fired from the Soviet soil itself. But Afghanistan gives advantage of some 1,300 km (800 miles) to Russia. "Nearer the range better the kill and weather factor is also doubly ensured against", PTI said.

An intriguing aspect of the Russian military presence in Afghanistan is the deployment of about 5,000 tanks and armoured personnel carriers--a very large number for a country which is three-fourths hilly, PTI said.

Quoting highly placed sources PTI said that four to five Russian divisions are poised on the Iranian border. The total strength of Russian troops in Afghanistan is now estimated at 110,000. In March last year, their number was a mere 30,000, PTI said.

Commenting on the military logic of keeping missiles in Afghanistan, PTI said that one impact of the Soviet missile capability in Afghanistan, as a counter-weight to American presence in Diego Garcia, is that big power rivalry has been accentuated in a region so close to Iran, Pakistan and India.

In addition to medium range missiles, the Soviets also have surface to surface missiles that in NATO nomenclature are called "Frog". Some of these have been sighted in Kabul itself. They have a range of 40 km (24 miles) and are tactical weapons, PTI said.

Quoting observers PTI said that these form part of the normal Soviet military divisions which also have biological and chemical warfare capability, cumulatively called nuclear, biological and chemical capability (NBC). The NBC capability is both passive and active, that is a division can withstand nuclear, biological and chemical warfare and also launch such attacks, PTI said.

Referring to Soviet air presence PTI said that it is no less impressive, but is entirely meant for anti-insurgent operations. Most airfields in Afghanistan, particularly Kabul, Shidan, Qandahar and Baghlan, are practically controlled by the Russians.

In Kabul, MiG-21 fighter planes fly almost every day. These are known to be used for anti-insurgency operations, particularly for attacks with napalm bombs. There is according to observers conclusive evidence of napalm having been used in anti-insurgency operations, PTI said.

The other aircraft used by the Russians is the MI-24 gunships of which they are estimated to have up to 50 scattered in different parts of Afghanistan. Each gunship carry four rocket pods containing 32 to 55 mm rockets. They also have machine guns and some of them carry anti-tank missiles.

PTI quoting observers said that chemical gas has been used by Russians in anti-insurgency operations. But the gas used has caused only inertia and not fatal or debilitating injuries so far.

KARACHI REPORTS FREEDOM FIGHTERS SUCCESSES

BK280318 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Apr 80

[Text] A report from Kabul says freedom fighters attacked a convoy going from Qonduz to Kabul, killing one Soviet officer and two officials of the Parcham Party. They also set a military truck on fire.

According to reports, mojahedins in Baghlan Province, showing a great deal of courage, repulsed and blunted a heavy attack by the Afghan Army. The Afghan troops withdrew leaving behind 300 dead. Five mojahedins were killed in the fighting.

REACTION TO, COMMENTARY ON RESCUE ATTEMPT

Khomeyni Speech

LD251715 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] The leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, in connection with the military aggression of the U.S. predators issued a statement tonight. We now draw your attention to the message: [read by announcer]

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Combative nation of Iran: You heard about the U.S. military intervention as well as Carter's excuses. I have repeatedly stated that in order to be reelected Carter is prepared to resort to any crime and inflame the entire world. Now the manifestations of this are emerging one after another. Carter's mistake stems from the assumption that he thinks that by resorting to these foolish maneuvers he can succeed in making the Iranian nation deviate from its path, which is the path of God and humanity. This is an assumption about a nation that spares no sacrifice to achieve its freedom, independence, and for the cause of dear Islam.

Carter still has not realized what sort of nation he is facing. He does not know what school he is playing with. Our nation is a nation of blood and our school is the school of jihad. This so-called philanthropist, in order to achieve a few years of presidency and crime [as heard], has destroyed the lives of a group. It is quite possible that to minimize his crime, he has admitted to the deaths of only eight people; whereas, the nature of things shows that dozens of people have given their lives for his whims, with dozens more wandering in the Kavir and being exposed to death.

The claim that all the aircraft crew have been taken out is contrary to the reports given to us. Carter must realize that if this group had attacked the U.S. spy center in Tehran, then there would not have remained any trace of the group and the 50 hostages in the spy nest, with all of them gone to hell. Carter must realize that attacking Iran is tantamount to an attack on all Muslim countries, that world Muslims are not indifferent to this. Carter must know that any attack on Iran would result in the stop of the flow of oil to the entire world, and that this would mobilize the entire world against him. Carter must realize that by this foolish act of his will affect the American people in a manner that will transform his supporters to opposers.

By resorting to this foolish act Carter has reduced his political prestige to zero; therefore, he must give up the hope of reelection. By this act Carter has proven that he has lost rational thinking and that he is unable to govern a big country like the United States. Carter must know that a 35-million strong nation has been raised in a school in which martyrdom is considered happiness and an honor, a nation quite willing to sacrifice its life for its religion. Carter must realize that all the modern war equipment the United States gave Iran during the deposed shah for its own base is available right now; the equipment is in the hands of the great army as well as other security forces, which pose a threat to his life.

Now that the great Satan has resorted to a foolish act, our honorable and combative nation must get ready, heeding Almighty God's order and depending on his power, to fight its enemies. The security forces, the army and the gendarmerie and the corps of revolution guards should go on alert. The 20-million strong army, having already equipped itself, must be ready to sacrifice itself for Islam, so that, when it is necessary, they may defend their Islamic country. They should not be afraid of this foolish maneuver which was defeated, as ordered by Almighty God, for we are right and God supports the Muslim nation.

I warn Carter that should he resort to such foolish things, then it would be impossible for us and the government to control these Muslim, combative and heroic youth who are guarding the spies in the spy nest; that he would be responsible for their lives.

I must stress that the situation in Kordestan, where deviated leftist groups and those opposing Islam have risen in rebellion, as well as the incidents in universities, where leftist American groups have resorted to disturbances, as well as the disorders caused by the illegal Iraqi Government along the Iranian borders have a tangible relation to Carter's aggression and military interference in Iran. During this sensitive time, should these deviated groups continue to cause disturbances in universities or outside them, then our nation will understand the direct contact between their leaders and the U.S. predator and will settle its relations with them, for any leniency and forgiveness would be contrary to Islamic policy.

I advise all the youth to join the nation, defend their country and abandon deviate ideologies. The unity of ranks [words indistinct]. I pray to God Almighty for Islam and the Muslims' greatness and the cutting short of the hands of the corrupt and the oppressors. God bless you all.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni. [dated] 25 April 1980.

Khomeyni on 'U.S. Crimes'

LD271748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1634 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] Iman Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, issued a message tonight addressed to Dr Bani-Sadr, the Islamic president of Iran. The message reads as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

Your Excellency, Bani-Sadr, the president of Iran:

It is deemed appropriate that, in order to investigate America's crimes in connection with its military attack on Iran, various groups from the countries of the world should be invited to observe how the world-devouring America, notwithstanding its claims regarding its devotion to human rights and its love of peace and humanity, has treated an (?oppressed) nation and continues to treat it. They should come so that they can observe the evidence of the crimes perpetrated by this cannibalistic regime, which, unfortunately, is supported by Western governments, and human rights associations, the United Nations and the UN Security Council.

They should come so that they can see for themselves the truth of what I have often stated; namely, that all these organizations and groups have been created to support the powerful and that these associations have been created by the powerful to dominate the weak and suck the blood of the oppressed in the world. They should come so that they can see the plot that has been hatched against our oppressed nation on the pretext of releasing the spies. They should come so that they can see and believe that the notorious organizations they have--which are there to serve the powerful and international capitalists--ignore the rights of the oppressed and do nothing except dominate the oppressed.

The usurping government of Iraq has been committing aggression against Iran for some time now on orders from America, but we have not seen these organizations and associations protesting, not even once. But for 50 spies who are being treated with the utmost humanity, however, there is a cry of protestreverberating daily from their throats. We have not seen the supporters of human rights defending the right of our weak government and oppressed nation. These organizations not only ignore this flagrant violation against an independent nation but also condemn us for violating international conventions. But in fact we have not detained anybody except the spies who came to Iran to hatch plots.

They should come so that they can see that those who want to impose an economic blockade against us in support of the aggressive America--even though Carter has not briefed them on his horrendous crime and even though he has violated the sovereignty of an independent state--that those supporting the United States still support it and continue to support it. They are dragging us into an economic blockade, and still they clamor in support of an oppressor.

You must caution the supporters of America, who are, unfortunately, quite numerous among our own so-called intelligentsia and the youngsters who have been deceived by these groups, to change their opinions and join their own nations. Tell them not to waste their lives for others and foreigners. Tell them to listen to our advice, which is good for them and is in their interests. You must caution the strata--such as the subversives in Kordestan and the chaos-mongers in the universities--to desist, at this crucial moment, from these antinational, anti-Islamic and anti-humanitarian actions which could drive the country to destruction. For any voice or action against Iran's revolutionary course will serve the world-devourers and will stand as the proof of their link with them.

Peace be upon you and upon the true servants of God.

[Dated] 27 April 1980

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni

Bani-Sadr on Landing Operation

JN261011 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 26 Apr 80

In a statement to the radio and television service on the blatant U.S. aggression in which U.S. planes violated Iranian airspace, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr has said: (?From Ahvaz) I went to the landing site of the enemy planes which [words indistinct] to Tehran.

There were two planes and five helicopters on the ground. I had thought that at least 200 or 300 planes had entered Iranian territory. However, there was only this number, which has been made public. The type of the helicopters showed that they were foreign.

President Bani-Sadr added: Carter, who sheds crocodile tears on international resolutions, has violated the sovereignty of our territories and flouted international laws and norms.

The president of the republic said: This matter is closely linked to the latest events in Iran and the issue of Kordestan. For example, the Kurds have told us that they are ready to wage war against the enemy side by side with the Army of the Islamic Republic while they opened fire on this army. [sentence as heard]

The Americans want to shake our country's firmness and stability. However, their attempts failed miserably, praise be to God.

The president of the republic urged the university students to obey Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic Revolution. This is known as the cultural revolution.

Asked whether he will protest against the U.S. aggression, President Bani-Sadr said: There is no point in protesting. Our protest will be by decisively working to remove cultural and economic subservience.

In conclusion, the president of the republic said: [Words indistinct] always speaks about human rights at a time when he does not value man at all. His deeds in Iran have confirmed this. We will [words indistinct] day and night in Iran to defeat these Satans.

President Favors Return of Bodies

LD261820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1647 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] [passage indistinct] According to our reporter, at today's press conference which was held in the office of the prime minister, the mother of one of the hostages who has come to Tehran to see her son was present. She took her place beside Dr Bani-Sadr, president of Iran, and in a speech said: I would like to say to you and the people of Iran that I regret the action taken by the President of America; and I would like to apologize on behalf of the families of the other hostages as well.

According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, the president then answered questions put to him by correspondents. Answering a question on the reasons why Iranian officials were not informed of the incident which was announced by Washington officials and what steps are to be taken, he said: I have repeatedly said that America has made our country dependent on itself in many respects and that our radar systems have been installed and given to use by them. Therefore, they know the points not covered by the radar and they know which routes to take and which our systems would not be able to detect. What we should do is to install a system independent of U.S. systems on our borders to prevent this incident from happening again.

Answering a question on the fact that the number of U.S. pilots and advisers in Oman has greatly increased, and that the Government of Oman claims that it does not provide America with bases but that the return of U.S. planes to Oman after the recent incident proves the contrary, and what was the policy of the Government of Iran toward the Government of Oman and the Strait of Hormuz and what steps have been taken, he said: According to the report handed to me by the air force, the planes probably entered Iran through the Persian Gulf and returned via the same route. The helicopters belong to the U.S. Navy; they are personnel carriers and they probably entered Iran via the Oman sea and the border between Pakistan and Iran since they had to land somewhere to refuel or for other reasons. The fact that America enjoys the cooperation of its puppet governments in these affairs is quite obvious. Our policy toward these governments is to fight in order to free the people of these countries from this kind of [word indistinct]. These incidents show that we are right and that the problem is not as they make it out to be. We are worried about the ever-increasing interference by America in the lives of the people of this region and obviously we will fight this interference.

Answering a question on whether Iran will return the bodies of the Americans who were killed in the disaster, Mr Bani-Sadr said: The governor general of Khorasan today suggested to the interior minister that these bodies should be returned to the Americans. The interior minister asked my opinion, and I emphasized that they should be returned.

The president answered a question on whether he intends to resume the negotiations on the release of the hostages: We did not have any negotiations before and we will not do so now. Americans approach us directly and indirectly but contrary to what U.S. officials say, they have not followed the operational plan proposed by the international commission. A part of that plan was the filing of a complaint with the Panamanian courts and the extradition of the deposed shah. This was canceled by transferring him to Egypt. I cannot say when they are going to compensate us for that wrongdoing.

Answering a question on whether any documents on the details of the U.S. plan have been recovered and whether efforts to find these documents and arresting the U.S. Marines have been successful or not, he said: Yes, the military forces are operating in the area and aerial photographs have been taken. I have visited the place and if any documents are found they will be studied. Hiding in the desert is not easy and if there are any U.S. Marines left in the desert, they will be arrested. I thought that there would be at least (?100) left, and we had plans for them.

The full version of the interview given by Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, will be carried in later bulletins.

Banni-Sadr on Soviet Agreement

LD261934 Tehran in English to Europe 1830 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Excerpts] The president of the Islamic Republic of Iran Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, at a press conference attended by local and foreign reporters in Tehran, said: The corpses of the American commandos who took part in the abortive plan by the United States against the Islamic Revolution of Iran will be delivered to the United States.

Responding to the question as to what will happen to the Iranian-Soviet agreement in the [event of] an invasion of Iran, President Bani-Sadr said: The Iranian-Soviet agreement has been repudiated, and Iran relies on itself in this respect.

President Bani-Sadr said: If the Soviet Union embarks on any action, Iran will consider it as an aggression. It is wise to mention that according to the agreement signed in 1921, Iran and the USSR have agreed that should Iran be invaded, the Soviet Government has the right to [words indistinct] in the northern provinces of Iran. However, this article of this agreement was unilaterally repudiated by the post-Islamic Revolutionary Government of Iran and this was conveyed to the Soviet Government.

President Bani-Sadr said in this interview that the [word indistinct] of the U.S. policy in Iran is to restore the former establishment and to destroy the Islamic Government of Iran.

President Bani-Sadr said: According to information received, the U.S. military intervention in Iran is part of another plan, and a part of it can be seen in Kordestan Province.

President Bani-Sadr described as a lie Carter's statement in which he had said that the Iranian Government was declaring that the fate of the American hostages was not known and that the U.S. military operation was aimed on humanitarian grounds.

President on 'Solution'

NC271715 Paris AFP in English 1707 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] Paris, April 27 (AFP)--President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr of Iran said today that the purpose of last Friday's abortive American operation in his country was "to prepare the downfall of the Iranian revolutionary regime," and not to free the hostages. A solution with the United States is almost impossible," he added. Mr Bani-Sadr expressed this view in a telephone interview with the studio here of Radio Luxumbourg, a commercial radio station.

He said he was "not sure the hostages had been sent to various Iranian cities" as had been reported earlier from Tehran.

But he added he did not believe they are still at the United States Embassy.

It will be "easy" to solve the hostage crisis if "the Americans [word indistinct] not to intervene in the affairs of Iran," Mr Bani-Sadr told Radio Luxembourg.

He said he did not believe the Americans will launch another operation like the one that failed two days ago, adding that if [words indistinct], it would be to overthrow the Iranian regime, not to free the hostages.

But poor U.S.-Iranian relations will not cause his country "to turn toward Moscow," Mr Bani-Sadr said.

Regarding recent Iranian statements about Iraq, Mr Bani-Sadr said that Iranian leaders had never said they would topple the Iraqi regime. He said it was up to the Iraqi people to do this.

Khomeyni Guideline

LD281058 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0946 GMT 28 Apr 80

[Text] In response to a guideline issued by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution, a statement issued by the president was just handed to us by presidential cultural and press adviser Mr Garmarudi. The following is the text of President Bani-Sadr's statement:

Having received your guildeine, the following measures have been included in the officials' working program:

1. Inviting the Islamic Secretariat to come to Iran to observe the evidence of the U.S. aggression;

2. Inviting the nonaligned countries to hold extraordinary session;

3. Inviting the UN secretary general to send a delegation to Iran;

4. Inviting the EEC and Japan to observe the evidence of the aggression;

5. Inviting the liberation movements, unions [**sandica**] as well as independent and committed parties to send envoys to Iran, to see the fruits of the Islamic Revolution of Iran and to see the evidence of U.S. crimes;

6. Considering the propaganda launched by America since yesterday to (?justify) the ugly feature of its aggression and harm our Islamic Revolution, and considering that there is no guarantee that the U.S. Government will hand over the bodies [of U.S. servicemen] to their families, it was decided to hand over the bodies to envoys of the pope, the Red Cross and the Swiss Government to be returned to their families.

Naturally, the aggressor cannot change its nature, and as long as dominant powers are powerful one cannot expect any change of attitude. Consequently, the people of the world and the American people must liberate themselves from the yoke of this satanic power through their ceaseless struggle.

Today the struggle against the superpowers is not only fully necessary to save humanity; rescuing civilization and man's survival depend on this determining struggle. The aggression by America manifests this satanic power, aimed at maintaining its domination over the world. [sentence indistinct]

These matters should be regularly explained to world opinion so that humanity may understand the nature of our Islamic Revolution and the imam's leadership.

This revolution [remainder of sentence indistinct].

[Signed] Your Son, Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, 28 April.

Muslim Student Statement 112

LD251807 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1700 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] Statement 112 issued by the Muslim student followers of the Imam's policy stationed in the American den of espionage in Tehran was released tonight as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. "America can do nothing," Imam Khomeyni. Fighting and Muslim nation of Iran, you have heard the new about Carter's disgraceful defeat in gaining the release the American spies. The world has witnessed how this thousand-faced, filthy Satan betrayed his allies and forced them to impose economic sanctions against Iran, using the pretext that if they do not support America, it will undertake military operations. Meanwhile mercenary executioners, together with CIA agents using the most complex equipment and treacherous plots, were sent to Iran in order to release the hostages and commit other possible treacherous aggression. The world and you, fighting and champion nation of Islam, have witnessed how it is unable to achieve anything and you see how the Almighty God helps the oppressed. You see how the angels are sent to your help in recognition of your resistance and resilience, and this hidden promise and great holy tradition is proved once again and in the most proper manner in this glorious revolution. [verse from Koran in Arabic]

You monotheist believers in God, you followers of the monotheistic path who after announcing your faith before God Almighty and its realization are showing resistence and resilience, very soon the angles of God will descend on you and will bring good tidings that cause no fear.

Brave nation of Iran, we swear before the spirit of God, the idol-breaking Khomeyni--this early rising and fully alert imam of ours--that we deem ourselves responsible to you, the generous, faithful people, and replying on the omniscient God, we assure you that if America tries to resort to these unskillful and cowardly tricks, it will not only view the filthy, lifeless corpses of the hostages but also all responsible for such plots will be buried in the soil of Iran.

You, great nation of blood and martyrdom, who with your still greater revolution have ruined Carter's reputation in the world and have disgraced him worldwide, should know that so long as we are the self-sacrificing soldiers of Khomeyni, keep our ranks tightly formed, and are prepared with all our might and equipment to confront the archsatan. It will come about that there will be no opportunities left open for Carter to think and conspire.

[Signed] The Muslim student followers of the imam's policy.

Statement 113

LD261047 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0944 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] In connection with the aggression against Iranian territory by U.S. mercenaries the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy today made their statement No 113 available to the central news bureau. It is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Combatant Muslim nation of Iran: Carter's disgraceful crime and his mercenaries' aggression against the soil of Iran, while making clearer the indisputable fact that the mighty hand of Almighty God is with this oppressed and [word indistinct] nation and proving the validity of the koranic verse " ain would they extinguish God's light with their mouths, but God will not permit but that his light should be perfected, even though the unbelievers may hate it"--perhaps following this incident the raising of innumerable questions will be highly pertinent to the Iranian nation, and we hope that the answer to all these questions will be clearly given as, for instance, whether the U.S. mercenaries could succeed in such complex operations without collaboration from their venal domestic agents.

In this connection we have received certain information which we will place at the disposal of the leadership.

It is true that we have given our assurance and do give assurance that to our utmost power, even at the cost of the lives of tens of the sons of Islam, we will never permit Carter and his mercenaries, employing such asinine and dastardly methods, to take possession alive even a single one of the spy hostages, but this does not mean that others either should not carry out their duties or should display dereliction.

Valiant nation of Iran, the foul Carter has described his military aggression inside Iran as an action undertaken in order to secure the release of the hostages, whereas we think that he had decided on extensive aggression operations in the country and the release of the hostages only constituted a small part of these operations. Therefore, we believe that the imam's residence and the headquarters of the Voice and Profile of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Tehran and other sensitive points should have stringent security protection. But just as the imam has graciously said, this plot has been smashed by the command of the blessed and exalted God.

In order to divest the criminal Carter of the pretext to commit such aggression and in order to enable the intrepid nation of Iran as a whole to participate directly in the business of safeguarding the hostages and in order to let the United States know that such foul methods not only will not bear any results with regard to the release of the hostages but rather we will be forced to revise our position toward them.

We have determined to keep the hostages in custody in various cities throughout the country. It is natural that every city should be directly responsible for keeping them in custody for the necessary period with the cooperation of the students who are deployed at the spy nest and who are with the hostages. We are confident that Islam's ardent youth in every city will with the utmost vigilance frustrate every plot and suspect move. At present, as a political act, the spy hostages are being kept in various places. [as heard] The practical details of this decision will subsequently be brought to the attention of the dear nation.

We beseech the great God to grant strength and greatness to the Muslims and long life to our imam.

[Signed] The Muslim student followers of the imam's policy.

Statement 114

LD270429 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0238 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] The text of statement No 114 of the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. You, the zealous youth of Iran, and you the zealous youth of Qom have believed in dear Islam. It was you, the great nation of Iran and the great inhabitants of Qom, who defeated the machineguns, stones and sticks with your clinched fists. May God's mercy and glory be upon you, the heroic religious people of Qom, the city of blood and inspiration. May the blessings of all the angels, prophets and the pious servants of God be upon you, the brave assistants of the great leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Imam Khomeyni. May peace be upon the committed, responsible clergy of Islam, who are in the same trench.

Those days, when the entire world is looking back at the disgraceful defeat of the arch-Satan, the world-devouring America, at the hands of the undiminishing divine power; and when the world is finding it hard to believe but nevertheless accepts it, we have decided to keep the hostages in various cities of the country so that in the event of similar stupid behavior by the U.S. Government, we will not have to destroy the spies.

It is necessary to pay attention to this important point, that the criminal U.S. Government is very frightened of the decisive position of the imam concerning the spy hostages and the return of the shah and his plundered wealth and the trial of the hostages. Thus, the United States embarks on this unskillful trick. Part of such a trick might include an attempt to attack the den of espionage, to abduct the spy hostages, or to create such an atmosphere as to force the Government of Iran to destroy them. At the same time, what is not important to Carter at all is the lives of the hostages. What is important to the U.S. Government is to prevent the disgrace of the trial of the hostages. Therefore, we have decided to keep the hostages in various cities of the country so that if America refuses to return the traitorous Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and his plundered wealth to the brave nation of Iran, we can put this mother of corruption of the century on trial by trying the spy hostages.

And the first city we have chosen to keep several of them is the city of Qom, the city of insurrection and message and the city of you, the zealous people, and the city of our great imam.

It is necessary to explain that several of the students stationed in the den of espionage will accompany these hostages to guard them. And we ask our brothers of the Revolution Guards Corps to keep the security of the place around where they live.

And we are certain that the great committed clergy of Islam and the zealous people of Qom, in particular the brave youth of this holy city, will foil all conspiracies and suspicious movements by their vigilance. And they will do their share of duty in this greater revolution, as they deserve. We ask God Almighty to bring you, the zealous people, success.

[Signed] The Muslim student followers of the imam's policy.

Statement 115: Hostage Transfer

LD071108 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0942 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] The Muslim student followers of the imam's policy, in their 115th statement, have asked the brave people of Azarbayjan to give the utmost cooperation to the students who have gone to Tabriz from the espionage den with the hostages.

The text of the 115th statement of the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. According to the logic of the shah and his mercenaries, the honorable people of Tabriz who rose in unison and shook the earth with their shouts of "Death to the shah," and drove that American agent more insane with strikes and the regular slogan of "Death to the shah," were foreigners who had illegally entered Iran--[quotation from] Imam Khomeyni, 29 April 1979.

Brave and daring people of Azarbayjan, the criminal U.S. Government is involved in trickery and wickedness every day. The decisive and uncompromising line of the imam, which is the true line of Islam, exposes the dirty and inhuman nature of the Carter regime more every day.

Carter, who found himself in a grave impasse vis-a-vis the imam's stance concerning the fate of the hostages, to the effect that if the traitor shah and his plundered wealth are not delivered to Iran, the hostages would be tried, resorts to any crime to save himself from the disgrace of the trial of the hostages. He is entertaining the absurd notion he could thus regain his lost dignity.

In the face of our decision that we would kill them all if the espionage den were attacked for the rescue of the hostages, Carter resorted to this action, so that with a military attack he might reach one of two aims: either the abduction of the hostages and their subsequent removal from Iran, or their deaths in the hands of the students. In either case he would have been free of the disgrace of their trial.

Therefore, we have decided to keep them in various parts of the country. We will not forget that in the early days of the occupation of the U.S. espionage den, the United States resorted to a dangers conspiracy through its internal agents and mercenaries in Azarbayjan, which was foiled thanks to the awareness and self-sacrifice of you brave people of Tabriz.

We have decided this so that America will know that the spy mercenaries are in the hands of the same people whose saga--making land which, with its plots, it intended to stain with the blood of their youths and separate from the Islamic Republic.

We ask the committed clergy, the university staff who believe in Islam and all the brave classes in Tabriz--and we are also sure that they will--to give the utmost cooperation to the students who have accompanied the hostages from the espionage den to Tabriz; especially that the alert youths will carefully watch and quickly neutralize any form of suspicious behavior and conspiracy, especially around the residence of the hostages.

We ask God for greatness and pride for the brave people of Azarbayjan toward the elevation of the Islamic Revolution of Iran.

[Signed] The Muslim student followers of the imam's policy.

Qotbzadeh on U.S. Operation

JN252100 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] In a special interview by the PARS NEWS AGENCY on the nature of the Iranian response to the blatant U.S. aggression against Iran, Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran Sadeq Qotbzadeh said: It is fruitless to protest against the plunderers of the world's wealth. We are going to call on the world to be the judge. How can the world remain indifferent, seeing the aggressive U.S. policy at a time when America thinks only of its goals and the wishes of its domestic and foreign policy, and how the United States forces the world to submit to this policy.

What are the motives that force a society, particularly European society, to succumb to the burden of this shameful subservience.

In reply to another question, he said that the United States has sent a number of military men into Iran. This is what we cannot take, we have time and again said that we will not hesitate to set the whole area on fire if the United States tried to launch any aggression against our land. We have asked the workers and the employees of the oil company to pour the oil into the sea and light it. We have ordered our fleets to close the Strait of Hormuz no matter what the consequences are.

My final word is that it is impossible for us to let the United States achieve a victory in this region. It is the responsibility of the European countries to not further encourage U.S. ambitions in starting the fires of war. The Islamic countries, particularly the region's states, must stand by their Iranian brothers against this aggression.

Shadmehr, Baqeri Comment

LD262324 [Editorial Report] Following the 1930 GMT news bulletin on 26 April, Tehran Domestic Service in Persian carries a 20-minute recorded interview with Major General Shadmehr, Iranian army chief of joint staff, and Major General Baqeri, Iranian Air Force commander, which is reported to have taken place on the evening of 26 April in connection with the "U.S. air raid against Iranian territory."

The interviewers are not identified.

The interview is split into two parts. Shadmehr in the first interview claims that the U.S. operation had two aims: First, to create a base in Iran, and second, to rescue the U.S. Embassy hostages. He goes on to cite the altitude covered by Iranian radar, saying that low-flying aircraft can avoid radar detection. He says that this is how the U.S. helicopters and aircraft managed to penetrate Iranian airspace.

In response to a question on how the U.S. aircraft penetrated Iranian airspace, Baqeri says that there are blind spots in Iran and that they must have used these. He then goes on to say: "I heard about the arrival of the U.S. aircraft at 0900 on Friday morning from the civil aviation, which in turn had been informed by Kerman airport and Darband."

Asked why Iranian jets had destroyed the U.S. aircraft and helicopter left behind since they could have provided valuable information, Baqeri says that since there was a sandstorm in the region at the time which prevented Iranian aircraft from landing and since there was a possibility that some members of the U.S. crews might still have been in the area and have returned to the helicopters, the commission assigned to investigate the situation decided that they should be destroyed.

He then adds: "I should say that not all of them have been destroyed. Unfortunately, only two of them have been completely destroyed; there are still three more helicopters which could be used. They are even airworthy. As ordered by the president and commander in chief, Mr Bani-Sadr, these helicopters and the aircraft will be transferred to Tehran to be put on public display as criminal evidence."

Baqeri then describes the type of helicopters used in the operation and the investigations being carried into the aircraft.

Asked whether the air force could prevent any repetition of a similar operation by the United States, Baqeri says that at the time the operation was launched by the United States a large number of Iranian jets were engaged in operations in the west of the country, saying that all the recent incidents in Iran have been diversionary measures, including the problems created by the Iraqi Government. He then adds: "Should the nation remain alert and should calm and security return to the west of the country, then we can assure you that, considering our available means and equipment, the air force will remain alert."

He then goes on to say that the operation could have been a success in the first stage, but no one knows whether the second stage could also have been a success.

The interview ends with Baqeri promising more awareness and diligence by the air force in the future; he concludes: "We certainly have certain plans which were put into operation as of yesterday. I think the United States would find it difficult to carry out a similar operation in another part of Iran."

In the course of Baqeri's interview he denies that Iranian jets had chased U.S. aircraft and had shot some down, repeating his statement that he was informed of the raid at 0900.

Khalkhali Statement

LD271802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1652 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] Bodies of nine U.S. Army commandos who were killed on Friday morning after the abortive attack on the Iranian soil, were carried to Tehran by one of the planes belonging to the air force of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The bodies were taken to the American den of espionage by ambulance.

At the den of espionage, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khalkhali, in a press conference, repeated his observations made at Tabas and the crash site of the aggressive U.S. Army planes. On this occasion, at which representatives of foreign public media in Iran were present, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khalkhali said: I offer condolences to the bereaved American families who have been trapped by the treacherous plots planned by the Carter government and I warn that if up till now they did not have evidence of Carter's ill-intentioned plots, now the blood of their youths is the greatest document of Carter's crimes.

He added: Destroying a great number of American youths, Carter intends to occupy the seat of the American presidency again and this devastating plan of Carter, (?act against his satanic orders) and push him to destruction.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Khalkhali, referring to his trip to Kavir Lut and the crash site, said: As a religious person, I was appointed to go and bring the bodies from the site to Tehran. According to the Voice and Profile of the Islamic Republic of Iran reporter, after explaining the American mercenaries' plots to conspire in Tehran and other sensitive Iranian centers, he showed the bodies of the nine mercenaries to the world media representatives.

Aircraft Found

NC251525 Paris AFP in English 1520 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] Tehran, April 25 (AFP)--The Iranian Army today found two U.S. Air Force C-130 transport planes and five big Chinook troop-carrier helicopters abandoned after the failure of the American operation to release the U.S. hostages, Revolutionary Council member Reza Bahonar said here today.

He said the aircraft were abandoned in the desert 62 kms (40 miles) west of Tabas.

Mr Bahonar said that between 600 and 700 Americans took part in the failed operation, and added that many of them were still trying to flee the region.

Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr left here to inspect the area, about 500 kms (300 miles) southeast of here.

Carter Speech Cited

JN251706 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] The PARS NEWS AGENCY has said that U.S. President Jimmy Carter delivered a short statement this afternoon following the total failure of the U.S. military operation to liberate the hostages in the den of espionage. Carter said he was responsible for the U.S. military planes' infiltration of Iran. Carter said that the operation was carried out with U.S. volunteers. He claimed that the operation was in no way against Iran or the Iranian people.

The U.S. President went on to say that the operation had been practiced many times and that the individuals who participated had volunteered. In a blatant justification for his aggression, Carter said: I took the decision to carry out these operations acting on humane motives and in order to protect the national interests of the United States, world peace and to ease world tension and crises.

Carter said: We decided to cancel the operations following technical problems. He reiterated that he takes full responsibility.

In an impudent justification of his failure, Carter added that the Iranians do not believe the hostage issue has our greatest concern. The United States people and I personally have great respect and concern for the brave men who are in captivity, as he claimed. He said: We decided to embark on this military effort because all political measures and discussion have not resulted in anything.

At the beginning of his statement, Carter alleged that the Iranian officials knew about these operations many hours after their execution. He said the plan for rescuing the hostages--which ended in failure last night--was prepared a short time after the take-over of the U.S. Embassy by the student followers of the imam's policy. He added that these operations resulted in the killing of eight Americans. He said two helicopters collided on the ground when they were refueling.

Carter said that he will continue to work with the aid of America's allies in order to find a peaceful solution to the crisis with Iran. He asked the allies again to continue their aid to Washington to achieve the release of the hostages. He said that no clashes took place during the operations. He added that a large number of the Americans were wounded as result of the collision between the two helicopters. Eight were killed. He said that the Americans were evacuated by plane from Iran immediately. The wounded were taken care of and that their condition is expected to improve.

Again, Carter replayed his former tune and warned Iran anew against any revenge it might take against the hostages in response to the aborted U.S. military operation.

Meanwhile, Carter hastened to meet with his senior advisers in the White House following his speech.

PARS Quotes Eyewitnesses

NC251714 Paris AFP in English 1703 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] Tehran, April 25 (AFP)--Iranian witnesses saw seven airplanes and seven helicopters at the improvised airport set up by the American commandoes which attempted today's failed mission to rescue the U.S. Embassy hostages, PARS NEWS AGENCY reported.

PARS quoted the head of the Iranian revolutionary guards in Tabas, where Iranian authorities say the planes collided, as saying that passengers in a bus traveling from Yazd to Mashhad were intercepted at 2:30 a.m. (2200 GMT) by "a group of armed foreigners who forcibly led them to the airplanes."

"When the group of foreigners attempted to make the passengers board one of the planes, another aircraft caught on fire," the report said.

"After being forced to spend the rest of the night lying on the ground, the passengers were authorized by the commandoes to continue their journey," the (?revolutionary guard) [word indistinct].

Pakistani Denial of Facilities

JN251724 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] REUTER has reported that a spokesman of the Pakistani Embassy in Tehran today strongly denied U.S. press reports that the U.S. military operation to free the hostages was launched from a base in Pakistan. He said these reports are mere deceptions and lies.

The spokesman added that it is impossible to permit the use of Pakistani land or space against Iran. He said that Pakistan will not participate in any measures against Iran, which is considered a close and strong friend of Pakistan.

Plane Landing in Jordan Cited

JN251729 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] UPI cites Greek sources as saying that some of the planes which participated in the abortive U.S. operation to release the hostages took off from U.S. bases in West Germany. Prior to their return to their bases in Europe, these planes landed in Amman, the Jordanian capital, to transfer the wounded.

Libyan Condemnation

JN251845 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] The Libyan Embassy in Tehran has strongly condemned the criminal U.S. aggression against the Islamic Revolution in Iran and the U.S. violation of Iranian sovereignty.

While sharing with the fraternal Iranian people their ordeal and condemnation of this criminal U.S. action, the Libyan Embassy expresses the support of the Libyan people for their brother Iranians against the hostile schemes.

The Libyan Embassy added that the real cause for the U.S. hatred of the Iranian popular relvolution is its Islamic character and the hopes this revolution has revived in the hearts of hundreds of millions of Muslims.

The embassy said that the faithful Iranian Muslim brothers have been granted victory because they followed God's words and believe in his words: If God help you, none can overcome you. [koranic verse]

Radio Criticizes 'Attack'

LD252030 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Today, once again during the short life of our revolution, God, the protector of the oppressed, came to the assistance of the tortured nation of Iran. Once again the suppressors have been crushed, headfirst, and have broken their backs; all their reputation and sham honor, which they never had, has been soiled. The attack by the American mercenaries against our country once again has assured the revolutionary and faithful nation of Iran of the blessing and support of Almighty God, since it crushed the American [word indistinct] who, proudly riding elephants, tried to destroy the oppressed and abandoned nation.

[Arabic verse from Koran]

These same people, who despite all their might and strength have been disgracefully defeated by the power of our nation, have not permitted themselves to come wage war against a nation that in addition to its amazing power also enjoys the supporting hand of God, and is able to turn all this equipment of war and calculated plans to smoke instantly, Imam 'Ali said: [Verse in Arabic indistinct]. Meaning, "I know God by his power to eliminate decisions and wills." And it is here that as Carter himself stated, all his preplanned designs disintegrated instantly. The one who has continually mocked us ever since the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran because of our inefficient equipment, now his equipment failed and he himself has become the laughingstock of the whole world. His pilots, after all their practice during years of kidnapping, theft and crimes all over the world, when attempting to land on a smooth and flat desert, their intelligence failed them and according to the saying [verse in Arabic indistinct]. They have been captured with their hands tied behind them.

On the other hand, mad Carter, who still thinks he is able to deceive our nation by distorting thoughts, opens his big mouth and says that these operations are in no way aimed against Iran and the nation of Iran. So, of course, since we believe in the honesty of the White House occupants, we are sure that these planes really intended to assist the earthquake victims of Tabas, but that they arrived on the scene a little late. Carter added: I made this decision on humanitarian grounds and in order to protect the national interests of the United States, world peace and to reduce world crisis. This operation should not be considered waging war against Iran. This is the same Carter whose predecessors, commenting on the bombardments and mass slaughter in Vietnam, stated: We are trying to bring civilization to a group of savages, and since they do not want to learn, they must bear our attacks. Now we have witnessed the arrival of American raiders in Iran, who of course have a holy mission and have come to Iran in order to maintain world peace and reduce world crises.

On the other hand, Carter, following his amazing defeat [words indistinct] warns Iran not to commit any act of revenge against the hostages in response to this abortive attack. This madman thinks that we are as stupid as he is and that we believe that he is prepared to endanger the lives of several hundred spies and mercenaries to save the lives of 50 spies. This can only be the case if he has mistaken the Tabas desert for Tehran.

But we are certain that if these operations had been successful, no doubt in the near future a base for training guerrillas and saboteurs would have been established in the desert, and several groups of devotees from the masses soon would have been organized to protect the Iranian masses against imperialism more than ever. Here we must once again remember the worthy saying by our great imam, who stated: "America can do nothing." We must also ask ourselves: Did not some of us at first think that this was only a harsh statement made due to enmity and nothing more? But now, after all the successive defeats of America and this last disgraceful defeat, we understand that the imam had a more important point in mind, and once again we realize that in fact, "America can do nothing."

Qotbzadeh Note to UN

LD252040 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2012 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] We draw your attention to a report just handed us:

In connection with the U.S. military aggression, the Iranian foreign minister has sent a note to the UN secretary general and has issued a warning. According to the central news bureau, following is the text of the foreign minister's note to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim:

Mr Kurt Waldheim, UN Secretary general, with regard to the military aggression by the Iraqi Ba'th regime against Iranian territory, instigated by the United States, the UN has kept silent, while we issued a warning to you. Now the U.S. Government has launched a direct and shameless aggression against Iranian territory. There is no doubt that we will defend our survival and rectitude with everything in our power. However, once again we warn you, as an international source, to remember your responsibility vis-a-vis this agression and its consequences, and remember that your silence in this respect will lead to further boldness by the aggressors and will result in tragic and irreparable events.

May I wish you success

[Signed] Foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Fahrang on Hostages

OW260107 Hong Kong AFP in English 0057 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] United Nations, New York, April 25 (AFP)-- Iranian Ambassador to the U.N. Mansur Fahrang today denounced the abortive U.S. military attempt during the night to free the American Embassy hostages in Tehran as a "provocation" aimed at destablizing the Iranian Islamic regime. Addressing a press conference, he warned that any repetition of what he described as "the invasion of Iranian territory by American forces" would lead to bloodshed. But he said: "We are not going to act in anger and we will not harm the hostages. We will continue to try for a solution."

He added that the militant students holding the 50 hostages at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran since last Nov. 4 had also given an assurance that the U.S. captives would not be harmed.

Mr. Fahrang noted that the U.S. action was an impossible task and therefore could not have been aimed at freeing the hostages, adding that a crowd of 2,000,000 Iranians would have immediately rushed to the U.S. Embassy area to assist the well-armed militants. He indicated that the U.S. raid had been prepared with the assistance of Iraqi-backed Iranian "counter-revolutionaries", high-ranking army officers of the deposed shah's regime, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and former Iranian Premier Shahur Bakhtiar.

"This crisis is not a confrontation between Iran and the United States as much as a crisis within Iran.... The taking of hostages is an indefensible act in itself, but it follows 27 years of exploitation," the Iranian diplomat said. "We have responded with great restraint, knowing that the tragic situation of the hostages is in the context of the revolutionary process (in Iran)," he added.

Asked to say when he thought the U.S. hostages might be freed, Mr. Fahrang said release of the hostages should be given top priority by the new Iranian Parliament when it meets in mid-June, a month after the second round of general elections set for May 9.

He urged Washington to contribute to a solution of the crisis by ending its provocations, its attempts to destabilize the Iranian regime and to prevent the deposed shah from being brought to justice. Mr. Fahrang also expressed hope that U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim would continue its good offices and that the UN enquiry commission would return to Tehran for another bid to free the American hostages after the Iranian Parliament meets in June.

Gendarmerie Commander Interview

JN260742 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] In an interview with the PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent, Brig Gen (Mahir Mijad), gendarmerie commander of the Islamic Republic of Iran, explained how the U.S. planes landed in the area of Tabas in Khorasan Province. He said that the available information indicates that these planes landed early in the morning 165 kms from Tabas in the (Nub) desert.

At 1500, a report reached us saying that a four-engined plane, five helicopters and equipment such as binoculars, tents, parachutes, a jeep and a motorcycle were seen burning in the area.

On the manner in which this incident became known, Brig Gen (Mahir Mijad) said: At approximately 0300 these planes violated the (Kerman) airspace. At 0900 yesterday, some passersby informed the Robat-e Khan police station, which is located 42 kms from the scene of the incident, that they had seen something burning in the area. He added: This was the first report that reached us in this regard.

He went on to say: I believe that the United States cannot land forces in Tabas to rescue the hostages in Tehran. It was a large-scale attack against independent Iran and its revolutionary people. In the wake of the failure of the operation, the United States wants to cover up this attack under the pretext of saving the hostages. The statements they made--that the operation was carried out to rescue the hostages--are sheer lies. The Iranian people should be constantly vigilant.

Body Discovery

LD260744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] In a telephone conversation with the Mashhad news center this morning, an informed official at the Khorasan governorate general office announced: On the basis of reports which have reached us from Tabas, three air force fighter aircraft of the Islamic Republic of Iran destroyed two helicopters by opening fire on the U.S. military aircraft and helicopters in the Tabas desert area while another three helicopters were seized intact by Iranian military forces. He also announced: The U.S. military aircraft caught fire because it collided with one of the helicopters. Four unidentifiable burned bodies were discovered on the side of the aircraft wreckage.

U.S. Officials Cited

LD260746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] AP has reported that an informed U.S. official, who was not prepared to divulge his name has stated: The unit which took part in the abortive U.S. hostage rescue operation was a top-secret, antiterrorist volunteer force stationed in North Carolina.

The official added: The planning of this operation took place last January. This unit has an unlimited budget and extremely complex weapons. According to the official, the unit is known as Delta group, with headquarters in (?Portsville) in North Carolina. U.S. Defense Department sources have also confirmed the existence of such a unit. These sources added: Only top officials have knowledge about the functions and number of men in that force. Delta operations are directed by a special group at the Defense Department, and its members have received training in antiterrorist operations, including hostage rescue operations. The size of this group ranges from 200 to 250 members.

According to the AP report, (Robert Wagner), a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, has said: One of the helicopters which was left in Iranian territory after the abortive hostage rescue operation contained classified documents on the details of the rescue operation. He said that he had obtained this information during a secret session between the members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown.

Paper Calls for Hostage Transfer

JN260838 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0710 GMT 26 Apr 80

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI calls for the transfer of the hostages from the U.S. Embassy to a safer place in order to abort any other attempt.

Radio Commentary

JN260848 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0620 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The miserable failure of the U.S. military operation against Islamic Iran was a powerful slap in the face to Carter and other White House politicians. The two American military aircraft which collided and crashed on a remote Iranian airfield were another symbol of the plans and plots hatched by the corrupt states of America against the Iranian Islamic epublic.

Carter, who ordered these hostile military operations, was compelled to humbly call off the operation when a number of Americans were killed and others were injured in the attempt. That Satan stopped these operations, which were aimed at military intervention to hijack the hostages who have been detained for months by the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy.

It was a new desperate attempt by Carter to get out of the dilemma he is in and to regain his lost prestige in the United States before the coming presidential elections. The current situation in the area shows that the man in the hite ouse has reached the end of his tether. Next, he will be falling into an abyss after he has tried every method that U.S. intelligence can offer. U.S. attempts to provoke border disturbances and communal strife have all failed. Other unjust attempts to impose an economic embargo on Iran and to turn its Western allies against the Iranian Islamic Republic were also useless.

Furthermore, U.S. collusion with agent rulers to preoccupy and weaken Islamic Iran by sending arms, funds and saboteurs was stillborn and only expressed the fear and alarm of the American octopus and its manipulated lackeys in the area.

The political and military approaches used by the corrupt states of America to besiege the Iranian Islamic Republic and weaken its missionary beacon to all oppressed peoples in the world are of no consequence, just as America itself is of no consequence. Here is Carter, the head of corruption, relying on Saddam at-Tikriti in his sabotage operations, and here are the U.S. planes, which were defeated, taking off from a base provided by As-Sadat and stopping over at another base in Bahrain.

Let Carter and his servile stooges know that the nation which, with God's help, carried out the biggest public revolution in the entire history of mankind, is capable of foiling all the plots of the Satan no matter how he tries. Let the colluding small tyrants know that the nation's willpower will never be defeated as long as it is following the great line of Islam. Let everyone know that the future belongs to the oppressed peoples and that the evolution of history is toward liberation from subservience and imperialism.

Mobilization Headquarters 'Alert'

ID260910 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran's national mobilization headquarters has issued the following statement:

In His Exalted name. "Carter should not frighten us with a military intervention. We are men of war and struggle." Quotation from the Imam Khomeyni.

The U.S. military intervention which, thanks to the grace of God and providential aid, has met a disgraceful defeat has aroused to the full the intrepid and fighting nation's wrath against U.S. world-devouring imperialism, and the imam of the Muslim nation has issued a command for a general alert. We thus announce that all those who have received training for the mobilization of the 20-million strong army, particularly those in Khorasan Province, are dutybound to make known their readiness by reporting to office branches in the provincial cities today, Saturday.

Tehran's clergy, who have not had an opportunity to receive military training, are hereby invited to go to the national mobilization headquarters situated at the intersection of Keshavarz Boulevard and North Palestine to register their names on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 April so that they may receive a crash course of essential military training and thus be able to participate in the special march by the clergy on 1 May opposite the imam's residence. For further information those interested may telephone 899-506 and 898-809.

[Signed] The national mobilization headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Paper Comments on 'U.S. Aggression'

JN261052 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0710 GMT 26 Apr 80

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "From Abraha to Carter" the newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI publishes an article on the U.S. military operation and the historic link that exists between this contemporary defeat of despotic forces, methods and ideas and the old defeat suffered by the owners of elephants when they mobilized their forces, potentials and conspiratorial methods under Ethiopia's Abraha to confront early Islam and stab the Muslims in the back. The paper refers to the similarity between the two defeats and to the divine wisdom which ended the conspiracies of Abraha and Carter.

The paper says: Carter does not want to learn from history. His only concern is to win in the presidential elections and to perpetuate the policies of oppression against the peoples who are struggling to free their will and liberate their resources from U.S. monopolies and the forces that are collaborating with them in the exploitation and conspiracy. That is why Carter is ready to commit any crime or deed.

The paper points to Khomeyni's historic statement to the nation yesterday and stresses the remark by the leader of the nation and Islamic Revolution that Carter has not yet realized what nation he is facing and what school he is trying to play with. Our nation is a nation of blood and our school is the school of jihad. It is the school of Islam, the school of man's independence and his liberation from the forces of oppression. It is the school of jihad and martyrdom.

When Carter attacks Iran with his military forces, he is really attacking all the Islamic countries. Carter, who lost the power to think, does not understand or realize that by depending on Almighty God, our people are ready to confront the enemy and are ready to wage a war with him regardless of its dimensions or results. Carter fails to understand the real meaning of our people's strength, whose potential stems from the school of jihad and martyrdom under the imam's leadership.

The paper concludes: We must tell Carter and his political advisers that they still have not understood the Islamic revolution, the Islamic nation and their leader.

Ambassador Comments

JN261106 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] Amir 'Ala'i Shamsoddin, ambassador of the Iranian Islamic Republic in Paris, has announced that Carter's unsuccessful aggressive attempt has exposed the lives of the U.S. hostages to danger. The ambassador added: This operation is considered a failure for Carter. He escalated all matters and fanned the fire.

The ambassador of the Iranian Islamic Republic, who was speaking in an interview with Luxembourg radio, said: By exposing the lives of the hostages to danger, Carter has acted in a childish way. He is trying to save himself prior to the elections. He is not thinking of saving the hostages nor does he want to stop his satanic deeds; in other words, ceasing to interfere in Iran's domestic affairs.

The ambassador warned Carter by saying: Let Carter know that the students holding the hostages are well-equipped and will never allow the success of such operations.

BAMDAD on Operation Details

JN261101 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0710 GMT 26 Apr 80

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper BAMDAD highlights world reactions to the abortive U.S. military operation and extensively covers the repercussions of this foolhardy adventure. The paper points to Western reactions by saying that the United Kingdom, Switzerland and several other European countries had prior knowledge of the operation and that the Americans used military bases in Pakistan, Egypt, Turkey and Bahrain to carry out the operation.

The paper publishes statements by a senior CIA officials in which he stated that at one point, the plan was based on throwing gas bombs in Tehran. These bombs put to sleep any person that inhales the gas. The planwas to use these bombs to put the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy, who are holding the U.S. hostages, to sleep. Then three U.S. helicopters bearing the emblem of the Iranian Air Force were to land in the U.S. Embassy, kidnap the hostages and transfer them to the secret base of operations in the Iranian desert known as (?Kuwair Lut).

The paper adds: The U.S. defense secretary held an emergency meeting with top U.S. generals to review the results of the defeat. No statement was issued following the meeting. The paper does not exclude the possibility of another U.S. surprise operation against Iran in order to minimize the effects of the U.S. defeat, which resulted from the aborted landing operation yesterday.

In a telephone conversation with Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim expressed regret for the U.S. action and requested Iran to practice greater self-control with regard to the issue despite the irrational actional action by the United States. During this conversation Sadeq Qotbzadeh called on the UN secretary general to express his views officially and openly and urged the UN to carry out its duties more efficiently.

Claim of Earlier Operations

ID261234 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] General Zahir-Nezhad, commander of the gendarmerie, said in an interview with PARS NEWS AGENCY: In my opinion, it is not the first time that the United States has performed such military operations in Iran. The United States has in the past carried out similar operations by air of land in our country [as heard]. The disturbances that occur in various parts and the arms and military equipment that are placed in the hands of the agents and mercenaries of the previous regime for creating disorder are distributed this way.

The commander of the gendarmerie added: America's aim in these operations has not been the rescue of the hostages--(?this was) only an excuse for the accomplishment of its aims. Considering Tehran's condition and situation, the rescue of the hostages by military means is in no way possible.

General Zahir-Nezhad said: The U.S. military operations are simply overt attacks on our country's liberty. [as heard].

Regarding the method of the U.S. military operations, the gendarmerie commander said: Around 0300 Friday morning, a local gendarmerie post by the name of (Darband), in the north of [name indistinct], reported the first siting of the aircraft. (?Travelers) also confirmed these sitings in the morning.

The gendarmerie commander added: Our (?agents) have been dispatched to the scene from the gendarmerie post situated (?42) km from the landing site and the Tabas-Yazd desert road southeast of Tehran.

Ahvaz March

GF261600 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] Following the unsuccessful U.S. military action that involved attacks by U.S. planes on Iranian territory in an effort to kidnap the American hostages, various groups of Ahvaz citizens held a march yesterday afternoon to express their happiness over the failure of the mission and to condemn the attack. According to a PARS correspondent, the march began in Azadi Square. At the end of the march the demonstrators gathered in the A'zam religious center.

The following were heard at the demonstration: [shouts of "Death to the United States," "The Iranian People have a Ruhollah [Khomeyni]] who is against the United States," "With both hot and cold weapons and machineguns, let us move against the United States," [chants in Arabic]. As you heard, chanting slogans, the marchers condemned plots by world imperialism and by the Ba'thist regime in Iraq, as well as antipeople Feda'is.

Helicopters To Be Examined

ID261204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch Brigadier General Qobadi, commander of the 77th Infantry Division in Khorasan, who is already in the Robat-e Khan region in Tabas, scene of the aggression perpetrated by the U.S. military aircraft and helicopters, in a telephone conversation with the PARS correspondent in Mashhad, described the situation in that area as completely calm. He said: Last night the entire airspace of the region was under the control of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Khorasan's 77th Division's commanding officer, in reply to a question put tohim by the PARS correspondent about the flares which lit the sky over the region last night, said: All the flares launched from last night to this morning were dropped by the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran from aircraft flying at high altitude and this resulted in establishing control over the area. And already, besides the aerial patrolling, troops from the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with the cooperation of their gendarmerie brothers and Khorasan's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, are fully controlling the region.

Brigadier General Qobadi also noted: So far none of the U.S. aggressor troops has been seen in the region.

Khorasan's 77th Division's commander, in reply to another question put to him by the PARS correspondent in Mashhad as to whether the aggressive U.S. helicopters which landed in Robat-e Khan have been inspected or not, said: This has not been done, and we are awaiting the arrival of a special panel of experts to carry out the task of inspecting the interior of the helicopters.

Another dispatch from the PARs correspondent from Mashhad says: At present a state of emergency and alert is in effect throughout the province; last night members of the national mobilization organization for the 20-million-strong army until this morning were busy patrolling the sensitive centers, mosques and various highways and stringent control was in effect.

Bahrain Liberation Front Condemnation

ID261210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] Bahrain's Islamic Liberation Front has claimed that the U.S. aircraft refueled from the Jafyr base in Manama and then flew toward the Lut salt desert. Bahrain's Islamic Liberation Front's statement, placed at the disposal of the PARS NEWS AGENCY, sharply condemned the insolent and abortive U.S. military attack. The front also noted: Those who have backed this U.S. crime will be punished.

Qotbzadeh Quotes Waldheim

ID261222 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0953 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] A spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran said in a conversation with the PARS NEWS AGENCY:

The march ended with a gathering at the A'zam religious center. Speeches were delivered about the unsuccessful attack by the U.S. planes and the shameful defeat of the United States, which had harbored the infantile hope of releasing the hostages. The unsuccessful action by the United States was vigorously condemned.

Army Requests Vigilance

GF261646 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] The following communique was issued today by the 92d Armored Division in Khuzestan and addressed to Khuzestan citizens:

Esteemed and honorable citizens of Khuzestan, the launching of disgraceful operations by the world-devouring United States in an effort to kidnap the hostages from the espionage nest is not unrelated to the recent events in the country, and a renewed effort through other means is probable. Rest assured that your soldier brothers are in a state of alert and preparedness in all sensitive areas of Khuzestan to confront and repel with devotion any transgression and violation. Rapid means of communication and contact between transmitting areas along different border points and our army bases make it possible for us to be alerted immediately to any and all aggression and trespassing and to confront such acts. Furthermore, our air force fighter planes, ready at Vahdati airbase through secure and dependable means of contact, can be alerted to take off and engage in operations in less than 3 minutes from the time of any border violation. For some time now, our radars located in various areas have had all air traffic along the border under control and surveillance. Further, our air defense weapons are prepared to thwart all airspace violations.

The communique of the 92d Armored Division adds: All of these measures to safeguard and protect this homeland and territory are guaranteed by the support of you, the brave and valiant Muslim people of Khuzestan, who are resolutely cooperating with your brother soldiers and keeping us informed of any and all events relating to the enemies of this land. While expressing thanks to everyone, please be informed that the telephone numbers 30062 through 30065 of the division headquarters, as well as telephone number 36095 of the division tactical operations center, are operating 24 hours a day to receive information and maintain contact with all of you brave brothers of Khuzestan. Wishing Iran's Islamic Revolution the greatest success.

[Signed] 92d Armored Division in Khuzestan.

U.S. Forces 'Blow Up' Truck

LD261850 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1732 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] Following the defeat of the U.S. military aggression against Iran, we now draw your attention to our correspondent's report from Tabas:

Three of the five helicopters left behind by U.S. military personnel in Robat-e Khan were destroyed by Islamic Iranian Army Phantoms. The other two were left intact. In one of these helicopters, inspected from close quarters, there were [words indistinct] maps and communication equipment. The operation commander said that U.S. military personnel have placed explosive devices in the equipment they left behind. Therefore, one ought to be careful; for there is a possibility that they may have mined the area.

Beside the burned bodies of two giant U.S. aircraft in which [words indistinct] there were six burned bodies. These bodies are possibly those of the pilots and copilots of the burned aircraft. Within a radius of (100 meters) of the burned helicopters and aircraft, grenades, [word indistinct] and U.S. coins were found. Moreover, the gendarmerie personnel took with them from the area [passage indistinct].

An oil truck, heading for Tabas from Yazd, today [as heard] came under fire by U.S. military personnel and was blown up. [Words indistinct] while Iranian Army Phantoms were bombing the area trying to clear it, a storm arose over the area. Meanwhile, two guard patrols entered one of the U.S. helicopters and brought out a box. Immediately afterwards, the box exploded, resulting in the martyrdom of one guard, named Mohammad [name indistinct]. Two other guards, named 'Ali Reza'i Tabataba'i and ('Abbas Kqalehi), were wounded.

The two wounded guards were immediately transferred to the Red Lion and Sun hospital of Tabas and were operated on. According to the director of the hospital, their condition is satisfactory. As for the martyred guard, his body is to be taken to Yazd.

With regard to the death of the martyred guard, a number of people believe that he was (martyred) following the bombing of the area. We checked with the operation command in the region who said: We carried out careful aerial reconnaisance in connection with the possible escape and hiding of the American commandos. However, so far we have no trace of them.

He added: A careful search is underway. Meanwhile, the area is under the careful control of the corps of Revolution Guards, the army and the gendarmerie.

Arabian Peninsula Organization Threat

JN262039 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1910 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] The Islamic Revolution organization in the Arabian Peninsula issued a statement in the wake of the abortive U.S. military attempt in Iran, in which it said: The organization warns the United States on behalf of the faithful masses in the Arabian Peninsula that any such type of desperate acts will lead to the explosion of U.S. interests in the Arabian Peninsula, particularly the eastern region, as well as the [word indistinct] of the oilfields, the burning of all U.S. installations and extermination of all U.S. agents in the Arabian Peninsula.

The statement added: The United States should take this warning seriously. It further added that the intelligence organs of the world wealth-devouring America are aware of the details of the uprising and movement of our people in the eastern region in the month of Muharram. They also know how much our people desire an Islamic Revolution and the establishment of an Islamic Republic.

We declare as of now that all Americans in the Arabian Peninsula and the oil installations that serve U.S. interests are hostages in our hands. This situation will continue until the impudent U.S. military threats against Iran are removed.

The statement added: We will mercilessly kill the hostages and destroy the installations in case another military action is carried out against the Islamic Revolution of Iran.

Pakistan: Statement Against Operation

JN262049 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] The Pakistani ambassador has contacted Mosavi Garmarudi, President Bani-Sadr's adviser for press and cultural affairs, stressing the fraternity and friendship between Iran and Pakistan.

The Pakistani ambassador handed Garmarudi a statement from the Pakistani Foreign Department spokesman. The statement expressed Pakistan's astonishment and regret over the U.S. military forces' adventure, which ignored international laws using the hostages as an excuse--a matter that resulted in catastrophe, the statement added.

The spokesman expressed his dissatisfaction with the U.S. operation, which was unjustified and is considered a blatant and serious aggression against Iranian sovereignty.

The Pakistani Foreign Department statement said that the abortive U.S. effort to release the hostages by resorting to force would have had grave repercussions in relation to the region's peace and security.

The Pakistani spokesman praised the Iranian foreign minister's important and principled reaction to this provocative action. He reiterated Pakistan's policy, which rejects any recourse to force or pressure in the settlement of the hostages issue. He said that Pakistan is committed to this policy and stands by Iran in its struggle to defend its national dignity and sovereignty.

The Pakistani official ridiculed the false reports [passage indistinct].

TV Shows Scene of Landing

NC262057 Paris AFP in English 2041 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] Tehran, April 26 (AFP)--Iranians were invited to climb on roofs tonight and chant "Allah o akhbar" (Allah is the greatest) for 10 minutes to celebrate the failure of the U.S. attempt to free the American hostages.

In urging the display, Iranian radio said the abortive rescue mission was another victory for Iran's Islamic revolution. "God invariably helps the disinherited when facing the enemy," the commentator remarked.

Iranian television dispatched a team to the scene where two American aircraft crashed and showed the charred bodies of several U.S. commandoes lying next to the carcasses of a giant C-130 transport plane and a helicopter.

The commanding officer of the 77th Iranian Division in charge of operations in the area said on the program that the Americans had used an abandoned military airport located 170 km (107 miles) from Tabas on the road from there to the locality of Yazd.

"When we arrived," he said, "Six helicopters were still on the spot. One was destroyed in the accident. We destroyed three ourselves Friday night and two are intact."

The officer said that captured American flight plans indicated the craft had flown in from the sea of Oman.

The camera showed wads of dollar bills scattered over a radius of 400 meters (400 yards) from the crash site as well as Iranian rials.

Militant Cited on Transfer

NC270741 Paris AFP in English 0736 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] Tel Aviv, April 27 (AFP)--The 50 hostages at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran have been transferred to the holy city of Qom, 120 kms (75 miles) south of the capital, the Israeli evening paper MA'ARIV said today.

The paper said one of its reporters was told this in a telephone interview today with an Iranian militant on guard at the embassy.

Indian Embassy Statement

JN270802 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] The Indian Embassy in Tehran has issued a statement on the abortive U.S. operation in Iran. The statement says: The Indian Embassy has learned with concern and regret about the reports of the U.S. Government military operations against Iran on 25 April to rescue the hostages.

The statements adds: While the Indian Government is against the violation of diplomatic immunity, it cannot at the same time condone the recent U.S. military venture which could have wider repercussions and an adverse effect on peace and stability in Asia. The U.S. venture can only complicate and further aggravate the existing critical situation. Furthermore, the Indian Government is against the use of force in international issues.

The statement continues: The Indian Government has called upon the two parties concerned to be patient and to refrain from the use of force in whatever form.

In the meantime, the Indian president has called upon the big powers not to involve themselves in unnecessary wars with small countries. He said that his country is striving to prevent international crises as happened in Afghanistan and Iran.

AFP Report on Yazd Situation

NC270846 Paris AFP in English 0823 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Stephen McDonnel report]

[Text] Yazd, central Iran, April 27 (AFP)--A village boy who thought I was American turned me in today to troops hunting any United States commandos from the abortive hostage rescue mission north-east of here.

A soldier flagged down my car on the outskirts of Yazd and ordered me into any army check-point. Six troops stayed with me while a seventh went off with my identity card to ano another room. He was away three minutes--just long enough to telephone the National Guidence Ministry in Tehran and confirm I was British. When he came back he apologized, saying: "They have told us to catch the Americans. It is very important."

The boy had seen me in a nearby village and ran to the check point nearly one kilometre (half a mile) away to tip them off.

"I am sorry," he told me. "I was only doing my Islamic duty."

Security has been stepped up around this town although the site where the two U.S. aircraft, one of them a Hercules C-130 transport plane, collided on Friday is believed to be at least 280 kilometers (175 miles) into the desert.

Troops and revolutionary guards are apparently taking lightly their president's assurance last night that American survivors of the abortive mission had left Iran.

And in Yazd, locals today remained convinced that an American commando was in the area.

A taxi driver was asked by two Iranian companions: "Is your friend American?" When they told him I was British, he replied: "If you had said he was American, I would have killed him."

"I would kill any American I see--and then I will turn him in."

BAMDAD Comment

JN271005 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0710 GMT 27 Apr 80

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "We Must Not Be Careless," the newspaper BAMDAD says: The U.S. military setback and defeat, which clearly indicates that the big powers collaborated among themselves against the Islamic Revolution in the area, must not make us overoptimistic and thus blind us to the facts. The reality of the U.S. military infiltration into Iranian territory, in addition to some suspect movements that were well coordinated to deal blows to the Islamic revolution, show that a big danger threatens the Islamic Revolution in the area.

We must benefit from the lesson and appease those who are afraid of some acts by some departments by telling them that the president of the republic, Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, is closely watching the acts, movements and behavior of those who have important responsibilities in government particularly in the army and the air force commands, and that he will not forgive or show leniency for any mistakes committed. Severe punishment will be passed and those who commit mistakes will not escape the anger of the Islamic Revolution.

Rescuer Remains to Tehran

LD271025 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0951 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] According to PARS NEWS AGENCY, the bodies of the eight [as heard] Americans who were killed during the unsuccessful military attack on Iran, in Tabas, together with some belongings, including books, burned and unburned weapons and maps of Iran, were transferred to the Revolution Guards Corps headquarters and from there were taken by an army plane to Tehran.

Bodies to Embassy

LD271026 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1008 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] The bodies of the nine [as heard] Americans who were killed during U.S. aggression against Iran were taken from Mehrabad airport to the espionage den this afternoon.

Citizens Hold Ceremonies

GF271520 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] Last night citizens of Fars, Bushehr and Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad, along with all other compatriots throughout the country, expressed their thanks and gratitude to the almighty for the defeat and failure of the U.S. superpower in its aggression against our land. Following shouts of "God is great," the people chanted: "Right is might and victorious! The United States is destroyed." The shouts of "God is great" began at 2100 and until 2115 shook the skies of the cities, villages and suburbs of Fars as well as those in the provinces of Bushehr and Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad. In some of the cities, among them those in Yasuj, the citizens, and especially high school students, staged protest marches against the aggressive United States.

Report of 30 Killed

NC271549 Paris AFP in English 1545 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Tehran, April 27 (AFP)--Nearly 30 U.S. commandos were killed in Thursday's abortive attempt to rescue the American hostages and not eight as U.S. officials reported, an ayatollah who supervised the recovery operation said today.

Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali showed journalists at the occupied U.S. Embassy here nine completely charred bodies he said were those of the commandos killed in the collission of the U.S. aircraft in the Iranian desert.

The remains of about 20 other American soldiers remained at the site of the crash because they could not be transported, he added.

Ayatollah Khalkhali said the bodies will not be returned to the U.S. Government but instead will be given to a Catholic institution, either the pope or Monsignor Capucci.

He said the hostages will "undoubtedly" be judged after the Iranian Parliament meets. But those not engaged in activities hostile to Iran will not worry, the ayatollah said. He was personally opposed to any executions.

Commander on Body Transfer

LD271820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1659 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, the commander of the Khorasan 77th Division Infantry, who is in charge of the operation in Rabat-e Khan in Tabas, the location where the attacking American aircraft and helicopters landed, and who is now in the area, gave a telephone interview today in which he announced that the region continues to be under the full control of the units of the army of the Iranian Islamic Republic, the Revolution Guards corps and the gendarmerie. The commander of the 77th Khorasan Division said that so far there has not been any evidence of the assailants' hideouts or of their escape. He added that it does not seem that any of the assailants are in the area. But we will continue our search in an extensive manner.

The commander of the Khorasan 77th Division further stated that the bodies of the American aggressors, including five bodies, four skulls and disintegrated pieces of the bodies of the assailants which have all been packaged, have been handed over to the Revolution Guards Corps along with a number of pieces of their equipment that were not of technical nature and transported to Tehran. He added that experts sent from Tehran are already busy with the necessary search and investigation, and that, after a special commission is sent to the area and a full inventory taken, it has been decided to remove the equipment and transport it to Tehran.

Reports of Demonstrations in Bahrain

JN271932 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] The Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain issued a statement published in Beirut today, asserting that demonstrations continued in Bahrain today for the 3rd day running, particularly following reports on the abortive U.S. operation against the Islamic Revolution and on the exposure of the Bahraini regime's collusion in implementing the rancorous operation.

" statement adds that the Muslim masses roamed the streets last Saturday, condemning S.-Gulf regime and its plotting against the Islamic Republic of Iran. The statement that this regime has rendered Bahrain a springboard for the enemy aircraft.

The statement adds that clashes took place between the demonstrators and police, as a result of which a police officer was injured.

The statement says that the authorities ordered the police corps to hurl gas bombs inside houses. The authorities, the statement says, arrested a large number of faithful citizens.

The statement says: The masses of our Muslim people in Bahrain, responding to the appeal made by the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain, declared last Thursday a mourning day on the occasion of the martyrdom of Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr. Shops were closed and masses staged processions condemning the ruling Ba'thist regime in Iraq. The police attempted to disperse the procession, but the masses confronted them. The police corps arrested well over 50 demonstrators during the clashes, which continued until nightfall.

Jordanian Denial of Plane Landing

JN272045 Doha QNA in Arabic 2030 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] Tehran, 27 Apr--The Jordanian charge d'affaires in Tehran has denied reports disseminated by new agencies that the U.S. personnel injured during the U.S. attack on Iran 2 days ago were sent to Amman for treatment.

In a statement released by PARS this evening, the charge d'affaires denied that the U.S. aircraft were refuelled at Amman airport prior to their attack on Iran. He said these reports are baseless.

Council Discusses Investigation

LD280448 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 28 Apr 80

[Text] The four commissions of the Revolution Council held meetings last night. According to PARS NEWS AGENCY, Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani informed reporters at the end of these meetings about the bill of the formation of various parties and groups: Because of the recent incidents, we could not set forth this bill for discussion. Of course, this bill has been put on the agenda, but has not been raised in the general meeting yet.

Concerning the amalgamation of the Islamic Revolution committees, Mahdavi-Kani said: We have not taken any action yet, and it does not seem to be wise under the present circumstances. When we were received in audience by the imam he ordered us to keep quiet about this problem for the time being. In the present critical situation this problem is not in the interest of the country.

Hasan Habibi, the Revolution Council spokesman, informed reporters about the situation in the universities: On the whole, from the reports reaching us, many universities have started classes. There has been only one doubt regarding the university summer holidays which begin on 4 June. The point has been raised whether 4 June is a set date or whether it is subject to alterations and delay. I have been quoted in some places that this date might be postponed. I deny this report, as I have announced in a statement, all the universities which open must finish this academic term by 4 June.

Regarding the difficulties at some universities, Dr Habibi said: In some places we are faced with difficulties, among them is the Babolsar school of higher education which at present is closed and is protected by the security forces. The command council of the city [as heard] has suggested that it should remain closed for the time being and we have agreed until the representative of the Ministry of Culture and high education visits the school and investigates the problem closely. He will then declare his opinion on the reopening of the school.

Regarding the second stage of the elections for the National Consultative Assembly, the Revolution Council spokesman said: At present, the plan is to have the election at the determined date and this date was discussed. I do not think it will change and the elections will be held on 9 May. [as heard]

Concerning the imam's message to the president on the investigation of the abortive U.S. aggression against Iran, Habibi said: It was discussed in general and as a rule the president himself will make a decision on this matter.

The PARS correspondent also reported that Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Khamene'i and the Minister of Defense, Dr Chamran, will go to Tabas today to investigate the abortive U.S. military aggression against Iran and to look at the problem closely.

One of the Revolution Councilmembers also announced last night: The first of May is only a holiday for the workers. The staff of other government offices must report to work on that day.

Vance Resignation Noted

JN280627 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 28 Apr 80

[Text] U.S. Government officials have revealed that U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance resigned his post yesterday in objection to the military operation carried out by the United States to secure the release of the U.S. hostages detained in Tehran.

On Thursday, Vance announced his strong objection to this operation which, according to the Americans, did not achieve its objectives due to mechanical failure.

Envoy Comments on Soviet Support

JN280825 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 28 Apr 80

[Text] Dr Mohammad Mokri, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Soviet Union, has said that U.S. military operations in Iran constitute a great danger to world peace and security. In a press interview, Dr Mokri added: The U.S. Government and Carter have exposed the lives of millions of people to danger through their savage attack.

The PARS NEWS AGENCY cites Dr Mokri as saying: The United States, regimes which are the agents of imperialism and the Ba'thists in Iraq should realize that Iran will be a cemetery for invaders.

On the Soviet Union's stand on Iran, our ambassador in Moscow said: The Soviet Union practices a policy which (?Iran) has frequently proclaimed. In its struggle against the United States, Iran will rely only on its forces, it will not allow any foreign soldier to enter its territory.

On the results of the Soviet economic delegation's talks in Iran, Dr Mokri said that these results will be announced in time. He added: Iran has not been subjected to economic threats and blockade by the socialist bloc, the Islamic countries and Latin America. Furthermore, many countries in the world, including the Soviet Union, have announced their opposition to the economic embargo on Iran. The ambassador reiterated that Iran has not requested any military aid from the Soviet Union.

On the Soviet arms consignments to Iraq, the Iranian ambassador said: It is unfortunate that these arms are used by the Iraqi Government against the Iranian Revolution in Iran despite the Soviets' wish. He added: We are confident that the Soviet Union does not (?intend) to harm the Iranian Revolution. Dr Mokri expressed hope that the Soviet leaders will respond positively and will not send arms to Iraq.

Tabriz Student Statement

LD281120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1023 GMT 28 Apr 80

[Text] Statement No 1 by Muslim student followers of the imam's policy stationed at former U.S. Consulate at Tabriz was issued today.

The statement says, in part: In the name of God. There is no wonder if God Almighty destines a nation, armed with nothing but faith, to vanquish all powers--Imam Khomeyni.

The valiant people of Azarbayjan, [passage indistinct] after the scandalous defeat of the U.S. plot, a flagrant aggression against Islam and Muslims, in view of the fact that one of the main objectives of America was to rescue the captured spies, and since these spies are held hostage by our heroic nation against the U.S. plundering system, we decided that in order to secure their final defeat [words indistinct] to send the hostages in various cities. [sentence indistinct] Following this decision, we transfered a number of these spies in the past 48 hours, under strict security measures, to Tabriz, holding them in a secure place.

In another part, the statement says: Now that the former American Consulate building has been completely taken over by us through the cooperation of the imam's envoy, Ayatollah Madani, we are therefore transfering the spies here to this branch of the U.S. spy den. This is to inform the inhabitants of Azarbayjan in order to keep them fully informed of the measure to hold the nation's hostages.

Meanwhile, we appeal to you, sisters and brothers, to demonstrate your decisiveness and revolutionary alertness, foil attempts and anarchy by U.S. internal hirelings and [word indistinct] and take all necessary measures when necessary. Your student sons need your protection and cooperation.

[signed] Muslim student followers of the imam's policy stationed at former U.S. Consulate.

DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING RELATIONS WITH IRAQ

Tehran Reports Coup, Husayn Death

LD271046 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1032 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Excerpt] A contact with the Voice and Profile of Iran, the commander of the Revolution Guards announced that according to reports from Qasr-e Shirin, there are very strong rumors in Iraq about a coup against the Ba'thist regime and the killing of Saddam Husayn. Similar reports from neighboring countries of Iraq substantiate these rumors. [passage omitted on celebration in Qasr-e Shirin]

Iraqi Group Gives Details

LD271704 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1646 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] The Islamic Peykar organization in Iraq has informed the central news bureau of the Voice and Profile of the Islamic Republic of Iran by telephone that in spite of the denial of all news items about the assassination of Saddam Husayn, this assassination was not unsuccessful, and it is quite true. The spokesman of this organization announced that the assassination was carried out by the ('Ammareh Beyasir) while the treacherous president of Iraq was inspecting a military camp, and as a result he was killed. The (Beyasir) group carrying out this assassination suffered three martyrs, and four others returned to base. The group used field guns [as heard] and handgrenades in the assassination.

Further on 'Killing'

JN271801 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1745 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] We have received the following statement from the Islamic Action Organization in Iraq:

In the name of God, the avenger. A detachment of the 'Ammar ibn Yasir fedayeen group, which belongs to the military wing of the Islamic Action Organization, attacked agent Saddam Husayn early today.

Two of the six-member detachment were killed during the operation. The attackers used hand-grenades in the assassination.

We will provide you with the rest of the details soon, God willing.

Signed: The Islamic Action Organization in Iraq, 27 April 1980

In another development, AFP cites persons in Manama as saying this afternoon that life is normal in Baghdad. The persons said: We have not observed any movement drawing attention in Baghdad.

Telephone lines are functioning normally and Baghdad Radio is carrying normal programs. INA has not disrupted its transmission.

The Iraqi Embassy in Bahrain has denied the reports on the killing of the Iraqi regime's president, Saddam Husayn, during a coup d'etat this morning. The Iraqi charge d'affaires in Manama said that he contacted the Iraqi authorities in Baghdad and that everything is normal in Baghdad.

Qotbzadeh on Death Report

LD272112 Paris Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] In Tehran there have been outbursts against Iraq since this morning. Tehran Radio in fact announced several times that a coup d'etat has taken place in that country and that President Saddam Husayn has been killed. This report has been denied categorically by the Iraqis who point out that President Saddam Husayn welcomed the Seychelles president at the airport today on an official visit to Iraq and that he dined with him this evening. But the Iranian minister of foreign affairs, Sadeq Qotbzadeh, who arrived in Beirut this evening, uttered a short sentence to (Alain de Chalvron) who passed it on to us immediately, a small sentence which may mean many things:

[Begin Qotbzadeh recording] (?Our information) is that Saddam Husayn has entered hell. [end recording]

There you are, it was very brief, and perhaps not very comprehensible for you. He simply said: Our information is that Saddam Husayn has entered hell. Well, clearly it is a phrase which can be interpreted in many ways.

Defense Minister on Iraqi Threat

LD251703 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0729 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Speech by Iranian National Defense Minister Mostafa Chamran prior to Friday morning sermon at Tehran University--live]

[Excerpts] You have witnessed how a flood of money and weaponry descended from Iraq to the plotters in Kordestan and Khuzestan. As you recall, right from the very first days of the revolution, Iraqi aircraft bombed Iran's borders and thereby rolled a number of our Iranian brothers in blood and soil; and when the government of the time [presumably Bazargan government] protested to them, they denied it with the utmost brazenness. Then, you may note now that our nation's glorious, triumphant struggle is reaching its height against the United States, which is being brought to its knees by our nation and cannot wage war against us, then this appendage of imperialism comes into the arena and wages war in order to please the United States.

You know that after its defeat the United States landed its commando forces in the Persian Gulf, Arabia, Saudi Arabia and Cyprus in order to employ this military force of its own against our Iran. The imam of the Islamic nation vis-a-vis this threat, with the utmost valor, graciously said: The hell the United States will attack Iran, our 20 million suicide youth, with their claws and teeth, would tear them into shreds and thereby a greater Vietnam [roar of applause] and a deeper vortex would be created for the U.S. forces in Iran. We then see that the United States, after its military defeat, began to think of an economic blockade in order to encircle our Itan and to bring it to its knees from the economic standpoint. However, vis-a-vis this action you may perceive that our nation is celebrating since it does not fear an economic blockage and in particular recalls the times of the late Dr Mosaddeq when Western imperialism subjected our country to an economic blockade for a period of 2 years so that it might overthrow the national government of Dr Mosaddeq. But after 2 years not only was it powerless to bring the Mosaddeq government to its knees through an economic blockade, but also it felt that the Iranian nation had become much stronger than before. With its own eyes it noticed that the Iranian nation had secured all its domestic needs.

Now today, should colonialism wish to put into effect its economic blockade against our country, all the aptitudes of our youth and technicians will be employed. Our factories will resume their activities. All energy, forces and our human vitalities will be put into motion towards 100 percent efficiency so that we will safeguard all our domestic needs within our own country, that would be tantamount to the biggest service rendered by Western imperialism to our nation, and that would be the best path it could bring as a gift to our nation for our country's economic and political independence. Here that we perceive that imperialism understands that it will not gain much from an economic blockade and, therefore, it ought to think of another solution.

It is here that it extends a begging hand to oppressive Israel, aggressive Israel, an Israel which day and night has subjected the Palestinians and the Lebanese to artillery fire under its cannonading and bombing onslaught.

The United States extends a begging hand towards the skirts of such a blood-letting, oppressive regime and Israel also prepares a plan in order to land its commandoes in our Khuzestan and to seize oil from the state of Iran. But Israel, too, soon realizes that the moment Israeli commandos arrive on Iranian soil, 20 million suicide troops will move and, with their claws and teeth, will tear the Israelis there and then into shreds [roar of applause]. It was then that Israel, too, suffered defeat; and then puppet Iraq and blood-letting Saddam Husayn entered the arena.

This flunkey of imperialism then assumes this momentous responsibility in order to implement U.S. plans in Iran. Iraq's attacks begin. Iraq's divisions are then marshalled along Iran's borders. But one day, at a meeting of commanders--some of whom feared an attack by the Iraqi Army--I candidly told them: Be confident that should the Iraqi Army attack our homeland's soil, our nation will wage a tooth-and-nail sturggle against them. [roar of applause] And should our army enter the soil of Iraq, Shi'ites will welcome it with open arms. [roar of applause] This is the secret to our victory, since the Iraqi Army is against the phlebotomist, blood-guzzling Saddam. And this blood-guzzling Saddam, in order to defend himself, cannot dispatch all his forces to the soil of Iran, since if his forces were to leave his side his satanical regime would undoubtedly fall. [roar of applause] And you see the moment Iraq's onslaught begins and Iraq, artillery barrages against Iran commence, from among Iraq's Shi'ite solidiery, from within Iraq itself, uprisings will take place against the corrupt Saddam government. The people will resort to uprisings, pour into the streets, embark on demonstrations against the blood-letting Iraqi regime and even dispatch to hell some of their leaders.

It is here that Iraq became filled with terror and, in order to crush the rising wave of Iraqi Shi'ites, dispatch to the torture chamber their illustrious leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Baqir as-Sadr, and then martyred him so that, as it might have imagined, it would succeed in damming the course of this world-engulfing flood and to continue its malevolent regime for a few days more.

You may perceive that one of the countries more than the others claims to be Muslim and Islamic, and more than the others attempts to defend Iran's Revolution, but in effect harbors the communists, George Habash and the [word indistinct] and even strengthens our people's devotee guerrillas [Iranian leftist guerrillas]. In slogans it defends Islam and the Iranian Revolution, but in effect extends a hand of cooperation to the counterrevolutionary forces and to the anti-ideological forces. It puts its forces into action in order to smash the religious ideological line in these countries [sentence as heard].

The suddenly you perceive that with regard to the issue of Afghanistan, when 100,000 Russian troops, armed with light and heavy weapons, begin to cut down the Muslins of Afghanistan and drag them in their thousands along the dust of martyrdom, then the self-same countries which deem themselves revolutionary and Muslim stand on the side of Soviet Russia and adopt positions against the Muslims of Afghanistan.

You perceived that when the despicable and mercenary Iraqi agents with their mortars attacked the Iranian Embassy in Beirut for 5 hours and then smashed it with a hail of fire and rockets and when only eight Iranians were beleaguered within the embassy and their lives were in serious jeopardy, none of these "revolutionary forces," which back the Iranian Revolution, entered the fray and defended the Iranian Embassy and did not adopt positions against imperialist-puppet Iraq.

And even one of their great leaders reminded people that should Iran enter into battle against the United States they would help Iran. But should Iran enter into a war against an Arab government, under no circumstances will they adopt a hostile position against that Arab government. These contradictions arise as a result of their lack of ideology, and it is here that we begin to appreciate the significance and value of the illustrious authority, Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr, who for years waged a struggle for that ideological and Islamic right and towards that end trained people.

Joint Staff Denies Chamran Assertion

LD251825 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1801 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] The following statement was issued today by the joint staff of the Islamic Republic Army:

In the name of God. Since Dr Chamran during his Friday prayers speech today stated that the military commanders are frightened of an Iraqi Army attack on our country, therefore on behalf of the army commanders we strongly deny this. Our preparedness for battle and our response to attacks by the Iraqi Army are in themselves proof of sacrifices by the Islamic Republic's Army to counter any aggression.

Attack Report

LD261118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] According to PARS NEWS AGENCY, which cites the commander of Kermanshah gendarmerie, at 2300 last night armed Iraqi assailants opened fire on the gendarmerie post and the Tang-e Ab Koneh area with RPG-7 and Kalashnikov rifles and mortar launchers. The firing which lasted until 0100 was returned by the gendarmerie personnel.

According to the same report, the gendarmerie post building has been damaged.

Helicopter Reportedly Shot Down

GF271410 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] According to reports from the PARS correspondent in Kermanshah, an Iraqi helicopter has been shot down for having violated Iranian airspace. Two crewmembers have been injured, while the other six are unharmed. [passage indistinct]

Also, an Iraqi AN-2 plane has been forced to land near the city of Dezful after being warned by fighter planes of the Islamic Republic's Air Force. The plane is being guarded by local gendarmerie.

Iraqi Crewmen to Tehran

JN271633 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] The air force commander of the Iranian Islamic Republic Army has announced that our fighter planes forced an Iraqi plane that violated Iranian airspace in Khuzestan to land, after it was fired upon. The air force commander added that the aggressive Iraqi plane's crewmen, who number six, were arrested by the Iranian Armed Forces.

The plane's crewmen were transferred to Tehran this afternoon after its captain received medical treatment.

Army Account of Downing

LD271752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] In connection with the forced landing of an Iraqi plane in the Dezful area, the Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran tonight issued a statement as follows:

In the name of the Almighty God, at 0600 today an Iraqi plane flying at 240 miles per hour at an altitude of 3000 feet, at the geographical location of 3135 degrees north and 4700 east, was detected by Dezful radar. Because of the threatening direction in which the plane was flying, toward Iran, at 0700 two F-5 planes at Dezful airbase were put on full alert. Our fighter planes [words indistinct] at 0705 took off and were directed toward the aggressor plane. The dispatched planes at 0715 reported sighting their target. They reported that they had detected their target by radar, and that the aggressor plane was Iraqi and bore the Iraqi flag. Because the aggressor plane refused to obey the fighter planes which were trying to force it to land, and because its intention was to return to its country of origin, at 0720 the target aircraft was shot at and forced to land.

After the emergency landing the [words indistinct] they requested a helicopter to search the area and arrest the aggressors. Meanwhile, the fighter planes were ordered to keep the above-mentioned plane under surveillance utnil helicopters arrived. It is noteworthy that while the aggressor plane was still airborne another enemy plane, which because of its speed it is said to have been a fighter plane, was escorting the plane which was forced to land, and continued its surveillance from a distance of about 3 miles over the border. At 0741, helicopter 9450 and at 0830 helicopter 9452 took off from Dezful airbase to pick up those arrested, and during their mission fighter planes guarded them. According to the helicopter pilot, the number of those arrested is seven and they are all well.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran

AFP REPORTS EXPLOSION IN CENTRAL TEHRAN

OW281329 Hong Kong AFP in English 1328 GMT 28 Apr 80

[Text] Tehran, April 28 (AFP)--A violent explosion ripped through central Tehran today at 5 p.m. (1300 GMT). The blast hit Ayatollah Khomeyni Square, where the Iranian capital's telecommunications center and a major police station are located.

UNREST, VIOLENCE CONTINUE IN PROVINCES

Bani-Sadr Addresses Ahvaz

GMT261312 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1515 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Speech delivered at city park No five in Ahvaz on 25 April by Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr; recorded]

[Excerpts] Then they [Kurdish insurgents] began to spread rumors that Imam Khomeyni had died and I had resigned the presidency. They did this so they could destroy morale among our army personnel. So we had no choice but to order the armed forces to take drastic and decisive measures and actions. [shouts of "God is great!"] Our forces were instructed to hold back and refrain from any hostile action when these elements came to their senses and removed the blockade of the barracks. We told our forces to try as much as possible to keep the actions and destiny of the Sanandaj citizens separate from that of the armed groups who have forcibly imposed their will and control on that city. We told them to refrain from injuring the citizens. However, if that proved impossible, we told them to try to refrain from injuring the ordinary citizens, because these armed groups had mercilessly, shamelessly and without any conscience, turned the people's homes and residences into their strongholds. They had held the people hostage inside these houses by force so the people could serve as cover and protection for them. Then it was decided to try to convince them to end the hostility and confrontation against the armed forces of the republic, but it was useless.

Yesterday, I asked the brave revolution guards and valiant army personnel to engage in operations, instead of holding back, in order to avoid any casualties among the citizens. I did point out to them that there would be heavy casualties in this operation. So these brave soldiers and courageous guardsmen accepted and agreed to take action and expose themselves to our enemy's bullets. [shouts of "God is great!"] This way, the number of casualties and the amount of damage in town would be reduced. They did this quite bravely and suffered heavy casualties. However, at the same time they taught these armed groups a good lesson--a lesson I hope will never be forgotten. [shouts of "God is Great!"; "Greetings to Bani-Sadr!" and "Bani-Sadr, Bani-Sadr, may God protect you!"]

Last night, a few of our Kurdish brothers, one of them with a message from Mr Qasemlu [Kurdish leader], came to see me. I briefed them and told them everything that I have been telling you here, plus certain other things that I may have forgotten to tell you. I said no one else would have possibly had this much patience. I told them they had no pretext or excuse whatsoever for what they had done. I went on to say that because these groups had been losing public support, they were trying to stabilize and strengthen their position in Kordestan by creating new incidents and bloody confrontations. In other words, according to their own statement they created incidents hoping that they could belittle us through those events and incidents. However, praise be to God, events turned out the opposite of what they had hoped for. We have not been belittled there or for that matter in any other city or town in Iran. They had been foreseeing and preparing for a bloodbath. But our citizens acted, thanks to their alertness and due to their vows and allegiance to their elected president, according to the orders and instructions of their elected president. [shouts of "God is Great!"] Thus, the clashes and confrontations were kept to a minimum.

The Kurdish representative told me to go to Kordestan. I said I had no fear of travelling there. I said: As you can see, I go wherever necessary to help maintain a calm and sane atmosphere.

Kordestan is part of our homeland and our house; I will go there. He said that if I would announce my acceptance of all actions and reforms, they would put this armed group in its place--a group that is not bound by any allegiance whatsoever. Last night at 2300, the commander of ground forces there telephoned me and said they were holding their position and were in no danger. He said that even if our forces around Sanandaj and Beneh have been surrounded, our position in Sanandaj is such that there can be no danger from these armed groups. I asked them if the army could halt its operation to give the citizens a chance to rest and relax. He said they were capable of doing so. Therefore, we asked them to halt their operation at 1400 today and to warn these elements to remove their ominous hands from Kordestan.

[Shouts of "Death to Saddam!"] And I must also add that this representative of Mr Qasemlu had also brought a message threatening us. He said: We want you to stop sending the army and guardsmen into Kordestan. Otherwise, we will launch a widespread military operation throughout Kordestan and will continue until Bani-Sadr steps down. [shouts of "Death to Qasemlu!"]

Please be calm. The solution to this whole situation is that a Muslim does not make a decision while being threatened; nor is he intimidated by any threat. If we make any decision, it will only be done through careful consideration and in connection with God's will and wish. Therefore, your threat will have no bearing on our decisionmaking policy. I must tell you that, thank God, despite your threats, you did not succeed and we are standing firm and more solid than ever. But as far as the matter of local administration of various areas of the country is concerned, this is something that has been approved by me without any need for your threat or approval. I have been working on this matter for years. But this administrative authority and power will be given only to the citizens themselves and not to the armed bandits who for no logical reason fired on army columns. They sent me a telegram saying I had been given false reports and that the army had not inflicted any losses or casualties. The cable went on to say that they had destroyed both army units headed for Saqqez, as well as the column that was headed for Sanandaj.

You are the ones who had been boasting and bragging. But now, now you are screaming your heads off that they have been shooting at you and killing you. It is too bad that from the dawn of our revolution up until this very day, you were instrumental in all of the killing. It is a shame, it is really a shame that a nation, after 55 years of suppression, suffocation, poverty and starvation, should free itself from foreign domination and tyranny. And you, instead of working side by side with the rest of us to build a free Iran, a glorious and developed Iran, should try to create all kinds of problems for us while using Soviet and American weapons. It is a shame that you should believe that by creating these incidents you could bring about the downfall of the Islamic regime. And even if by a stretch of the imagination, you should succeed in this endeavor, you will not be the ones to replace this regime, for you are too small and too weak, to incapable of inheriting the control and administration of an Islamic Iran. [shout of approval]

Where else in the world can you find a president of the country who will come to a town, who will come to Ahvaz to ask its citizens to remain calm and maintain their composure, in spite of the fact that the hands of conspirators drag their sons and offspring into pools of blood, where else can you find this historic opportunity and this great spirituality. Therefore, this is the very last chance and moratorium that the president will give you in the name of God and the people. If you miss this opportunity [to surrender], then there will not be anything we can do about it.

However, all of our efforts can come to fruition only when security, revolutionary discipline and order have been established throughout the country. The only time you people can be certain that your revolution has achieved victory is when you do not lose your temper and remain calm. [passage indistinct] But if our people had lost their tempers, hundreds of people would have been killed in our cities. Hundreds and thousands of people would have been killed in Tehran on Monday. [referring to university unrest]

Our people have demonstrated that our revolution is genuine. They have shown that it is a cultural spiritual and divine revolution. They have proven that they are a brave nation and people and can remain aloof and calm during all instigations and anger. They will heed and obey those who control national affairs and the country's administration. [shouts of "God is great!"] So let everyone know that today's Iran is an Islamic Iran. Today's Iran will not bow its head to any form of instigation.

This nation is stable; this regime is stable. I wish to tell, you, my brothers, these elements do not recognize your rights. You have tested them for a long time. You tested them for 14 months; now it is time that you should test us for awhile.

Act as pioneers. Do not fear their weapons. Chase them from your towns and from among yourselves and then you will see whether we keep our promises or not. You shall see that we are Muslims and that we keep our pledges, and we combine our words with our deeds. We shall bring you the gift of freedom and provide you with necessary facilities [as heard] because we think about the Islamic world. The presence of Persians, presence of Turks or presence of Arabs does not frighten us. On the contrary, when all of these groups can live freely, progressively and comfortably in our society, when they can live together as brothers and sisters, then can we tell the world of Islam to forget about [word indistinct] and try to comprehend the meaning of Islamic unity.

So, for the last time, I want to tell these conspirators that it is their unhealthy imagination to think that they can paralyze or weaken this nation by bomb explosions, terrorism and killing, or by opening machinegun fire at the people. It is very unfortunate that, in the midst of all this, amid the victory of this revolution, this Islamic Revolution and Islamic culture, you should be so alien to this whole culture. We will not surrender to these plots and schemes.

I have repeatedly said it and it is my belief--and I act according to my belief, and the people have known and identified me with this belief and voted for me on that basis--that as long as I can, I will not resort to any means of force. As long as I can help it--Islam teaches us that as long as the enemy leaves us more than one choice or path, we shall try not to use that path.

We told you that you could come and join us in discussions of any kind regarding national matters. If you are right and justified, our people will accept it. We say that the road is still open. But if you should hesitate and test us in the fourth (?dimension) just as you did in Gonbad, Baluchestan, Tabriz and today in Sanandaj, you will find us quite firm. [shouts of "God is great"]

You must realize one thing: that we try to avoid massacres; we try to avoid causing anyone a nosebleed. But this does not mean that we are afraid of you. This does not mean that you should imagine us as soft and gutless and that I would prefer to invite you for any kind of talk and discussion after you keep shooting and firing. No, no. Not when you conspire and work out schemes.

[words indistinct] [shouts of "Greetings to Bani-Sadr"] Kordestan is only one part of Iran. Do not think for one moment that I have any fear of you or your rabblerousing, and as long as I am in charge of country's affairs, I will not permit you conspirators and plotters [changes thought]--and if anyone had any doubt in his mind before, he can no longer have such doubt, because you did not want autonomy, you were simply looking for a base of operation there in order to strike a heavy blow at the Islamic Republic. You wanted to topple the Islamic Republic. So, you might as well know that if you are still asleep and have not learned from this lesson, I shall resort to [word indistinct]. [shouts of approval]

So in these days while we are trying to establish the government's authority--and as long this government authority has not been established your revolution will not be solidified--I ask you brothers and sisters to leave all decisions and matters to us. Be calm and control your tempers. Once we have established the government's authority, let us get on with the cultural and economic revolution so that we can create an Islamic university, so that we can create an Islamic Iran, so that this Islamic Iran can become the center of world revolution. This was why the president of the republic came to your town. Keep calm and remain composed as much as and in whatever way you can. And when the time comes and it becomes necessary for us to act with zeal and passion, if you wish, we will not proceed without first informing you. [passage indistinct]

Official on Khuzestan Preparedness

LD261427 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Excerpt] The official responsible for the Khuzestan Armored (?Division) issued a statement addressed to the people of the province. This statement refers to the recent events in the country and states: Your brother soldiers are at present on full alert and are ready to sacrifice their lives in all parts of Khuzestan. Speedy communications between the intelligence centers and various sectors along the border and our camps would give us the opportunity to be immediately informed of any aggression and face up to it. Meanwhile, the air force fighters which are ready at Vahdati base can takeoff in less than 3 minutes after (?such) aggression is reported. For some time now our units have controlled all air activities along the border. Also, our air [word indistinct] are prepared to defend against air attacks.

Army Denies 'Rumors'

LD270721 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] The ground forces of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran today issued a statement which refutes the rumors spread in the western region by counterrevolutionary elements.

The statement says: Dear compatriots, counterrevolutionary agents who were not able to achieve their antinational and counterrevolutionary aims due to the resistance and persistance of the personnel of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran are desperately trying to weaken the morale of military personnel by spreading baseless rumors.

They have alleged that the family of the chief of the joint staff of the army has been kidnapped and that the commander of the Sanandaj division has been assassinated.

The Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran denies these rumors and announces to all esteemed compatriots that no threats or accidents [as heard] will stop the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran from performing its duties. The army will always be faithful to its soldiering oath to preserve the liberty and integrity of dear Iran and to guard the interests of the Islamic Revolution.

FARS POLICE CHIEF GIVES DETAILS ON UNIVERSITY CLASHES

GF271600 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] The following communique was issued today by the Fars Province Police Department:

As the public is aware, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran has issued strict orders forbidding all armed forces personnel from following or supporting any political group. He assigned them solely the duty of maintaining peace, security and order.

This office, due to its responsibility of maintaining order, public security and peace, faced an awesome and dangerious responsibility during the serious and widespread incidents and clashes among various political groups that occurred on 19 and 21 April 1980 in Shiraz in avoiding taking sides with any of the groups. It placed its manpower and personnel between the opposing groups and thus prevented the groups and individuals from getting too close to one another and becoming engaged in face-to-face clashes and encounters. Although this plan resulted in injuries to 26 police officers and heavy losses and damage to 17 police vehicles, fortunately direct clashes were prevented which could have resulted in losses of lives and casualties on both sides--something that unfortunately occurred in many other cities faced with similar incidents, where dozens of persons were killed on both sides and probably included innocent bystanders.

Due to the large distance between the clashing groups, the two opposing sides injured one another only by throwing rocks. As a result of constant effort and vigilance by this police department, order was returned and peace was established and maintained.

We ask the esteemed and pious citizens of Shiraz to take into consideration the duties and responsibilities of the police in maintaining order and rule of law. Also, in such situations political groups should refrain from becoming involved with law enforcement personnel and officers and from invlicting any injuries on them which could naturally result in instantaneous and sudden reaction. They must not consider or interpret interference by the police as support or a protective umbrella in favor of any particular group.

[Signed] Chief of police for the Province of Fars, Col (?Zia'i)

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES QOTBZADEH INTERVIEW WITH FRENCH TV

LD261808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1731 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, a Foreign Ministry official has said:

The Iranian foreign minister has not held any interviews recently with French radio or television. Therefore, the report by a French agency that the Iranian Government has asked for help from any foreign government or governments is utterly false and it is strongly denied.

MONTAZERI CALLS FOR REVAMPING OF EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

WA221530 Tehran TIMES in English 6 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Tehran (PANA)--Ayatollah Hosseinali Montazeri, a leading clergyman, Islamic jurisprudence expert and close associate of the imam, Friday called upon the country's academics and educational affairs experts to make a revolutionary move towards revamping the entire educational system of Iran.

"It must be scrapped and give place to another, one which would be suitable for our society," he said.

Ayatollah Montazeri's appeal was contained in a message to the Kerman Islamic Unity Congress, which was holding its sessions at Kerman as of yesterday and which would continue through April 20.

He said the need for changing the country's educational system was completely evident these days. It was obvious, he added, that when a social order changed, both its form as well as its contents changed.

The country's educationalists knew better than him he commented, that the present educational system, which was nothing but a leftover of Western culture and a phenomenon of reaction, was not suitable for our society.

He said that the present system had "set formulas," which Iranian students followed, after which they were awarded a certificate that was a piece of scrap as far as society was concerned. Such a student was not a social asset, he added.

The unsuitable education system had been responsible for the shortage of manpower in the country, may it be skilled or advanced, he added.

He noted that the country could become self-sufficient in science and technology only through the application of a revolutionary Islamic educational system.

He exhorted those responsible for bringing in the new system to set upon this goal with determination so that they could meet this just and revolutionary demand of the students in the shortest possible time. Montazeri told them not to waste precious time with bureaucracy.

Through bringing in the new educational system, he said, our youths could be saved from Western or Eastern ideologies.

He emphasized the necessity of compulsory military training for the country's youth so that they could be ready for any eventuality.

MOJAHEDIN-E KHALQ CRITICIZE ELECTIONS SUPERVISOR

WA221645 Tehran TIMES in English 6 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Tehran--Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization yesterday strongly criticized the supervisor of the Central Committee for the general elections who claimed that the people in general were happy with the way the elections were held in the country.

The Mojahedin-e Organization spokesman identified the supervisor only as, Mr Akhbari' and said the people in Iran are neither happy with the manner in which the elections were held nor with the results.

Akhbari recently appeared in a televised free discussion on the elections in which Mojahedin representatives from other parties also participated and expressed their views over the election network.

The Mojahedin said, "If the Interior Ministry want proof of our claim, we would like to stage a demonstration which can be started from the Tehran University to the Islamic Majles Building."

The Mojahedin said permission for the demonstration should be given and added "We are sure that a large number of people will participate in the demonstration to express their dissatisfaction over the results."

TOWHIDI PARTY DEMANDS ONE-PHASED ELECTION

WA231535 Tehran TIMES in English 7 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Tehran--The Towhidi Party yesterday sent a telegram to revolutionary leader Imam Khomeyni and threw light on the subject of rigging during the general elections for the Islamic Assembly.

Copies of the telegram were also sent to other religious leaders including Ayatollah Kho'i, Ayatollah Khansari, Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari, Ayatollah Najafi-Mar'ashi, Ayatollah Qomi and Ayatollah Shirazi.

The Towhidi Party asked for cancellation of the elections and demanded that it should be held in one phase.

In a similar statement of the National Headquarters for the Supervision of Free Elections, in an open letter addressed to President Abolhasan 'Bani-Sadr, demanded that the elections should be cancelled.

The open letter said that in case of the elections not being cancelled the second phase of the elections will be boycotted.

It was also demanded that the president should present all details of the elections to the imam so that he may have a clear picture as to what was done during the formation of the Islamic Assembly.

MERGER OF KOMITEHS SAID TO BE UNDER CONSIDERATION

WA231630 Tehran TIMES in English 7 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Tehran--The question for the merger of the Komiteh (Revolutionary Committees) will be presented before the Revolutionary Council for final decision, said Supervisor of the Interior Ministry Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani yesterday.

Kani said there are several plans and differences of opinion over the issue of the merger of the Komitehs with the police or gendarmerie.

He said that according to the constitution the Komitehs must be merged with police or gendarmerie and some with the Pasdaran Corps.

Some Komiteh members, he said, are against the merger because of various reasons which are absolutely based upon psychological and moral reasons.

But, he said, efforts will be made to satisfy all the parties for which an acceptable formula will be worked out which will be presented before the Revolutionary Council for a final decision.

Kani said that there are some government organizations which expressed their intention to utilize the services of the Komiteh members.

One such organization is the Ministry of Energy which requires about 1,000 Komiteh members for the protection of their technical facilities.

Kani said in his personal opinion the Komiteh should be merged with the police forces and those who are high school graduates should receive police training so that their services may be utilized in greater national interests.

PRISONERS RELEASED THROUGH AMNESTY

WA1735 Tehran TIMES in English 7 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Tehran--The revolutionary prosecutor's office has issued orders for the release of hundreds of prisoners falling under the general amnesty throughout the country.

According to an announcement a total of 265 prisoners from Mazandaran Province, 137 from Evin Prison, 32 from Qazvin, nine from Rafsanjan and six from Hamadan have been released.

PLO INVITES IRP TO VISIT SOUTH LEBANON

WA231730 Tehran TIMES in English 9 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Tehran--Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) representative in Iran, Hani al-Hasan, at a meeting with Hojjatoleslam Hashem Rafsanjani, member of the ruling Revolutionary Council, renewed an earlier invitation for the Islamic Republic Party to visit South Lebanon.

A separate invitation was also extended to Rafsanjani to visit Lebanon as a guest of the PLO.

The meeting, which took place at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council, lasted two hours and discussions centered on greater cooperation between the IRP and Al Fatah, the fighting wing of the PLO.

The meeting follows a recent recantation by the PLO representative here of a statement made by a prominent PLO member in Beirut. This statement disclaimed Iran's right to sovereignty of the three Persian Gulf islands, Abu Musa, the Lesser and Greater Tunbs which have also been claimed by Iraq.

COMMERCE MINISTER DISCUSSED BREAD SUBSIDY

WA221500 Tehran TIMES in English 6 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Tehran--Commerce Minister Reza Sadr yesterday said that the government pays a total of Rls.25 billion annual subsidy for bread throughout the country.

The minister said the subsidy is paid so that consumers may get their bread at reasonable rates.

Sadr said that 570 tons of flour is supplied by the government to bakers every day, of which 3,300 tons of flour is supplied in Tehran alone.

INCREASE IN TEA PRODUCTION REPORTED

WA231430 Tehran TIMES in English 9 Apr 80 p w

[Text] Tehran--Tea production in Iran during the last Iranian year was estimated at 36,000 tons, 26 percent increase compared to the previous Iranian year, it was announced by the Iran Tea Organization yesterday.

A spokesman of the organization said that tea was produced in an area of 30,000 hectare and pointed out that last year's production was according to an international standard.

A 70 percent raise in the amount paid to tea workers was also registered during the last Iranian year as compared to the previous year.

The spokesman said that a total of 18,000 tons of tea was imported to meet local needs. The imported tea was placed at the disposal of the private sectors for which 250 Rials for each kilo of tea were charged from them.

DATA ON AGRICULTURAL LOANS REPORTED

WA231500 Tehran TIMES in English 9 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Yasuj--Agricultural loans totalling Rials 979 million were paid to farmers in Kaguliyeh and Boyer Ahmad in the Kermanshah Province during the last Iranian year 1357-58.

This was disclosed to the PARS NEWS AGENCY by the supervisor of the Agricultural Cooperative Bank for the region in a recent interview.

He said that 8,419 farmers had been beneficiaries of rural agricultural loans and that a sum of Rials 274 million had been repaid to the bank during the last year.

He said further that agricultural loans in 1375/58 had shown an increase of 237 percent above the quantum of loans issued during the previous year.

FARMERS TO GET 20,000 TRACTORS FROM ABROAD

WA231745 Tehran BAMDAD in Persian 13 Apr 80 p 10.

[Text] In order to mechanize farmlands and remedy the shortage of tractors in the country, the Ministry of Agriculture is importing 20,000 tractors from abroad.

At present, 3,000 tractors have been imported from Romania; the first bunch of 565 of them has arrived; and about 500 more are being delivered in port. The tractors imported are being distributed on a priority basis among farmers who want to mechanize their lands.

In order to distribute the tractors to farmers throughout the country, they will be alloted to every province and township taking into consideration the proportional need of the area so that as soon as the tractors arrive from port they will be transported to their destinations immediately and sold to the farmers by representatives of the Farm-Machine Distributing Foundation in the various provinces. And in case the farmer cannot pay cash for the tractors, the Agricultural Bank will lend them the money to buy them so the tractors needed can be put into operation.

MEAT SHORTAGE ATTRIBUTED TO DEFECTIVE SUPPLY NETWORK

WA231830 Tehran TIMES in English 7 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Tehran--Despite the fact that the government bears a loss of Rls. 30 billion annually on meat business the people in Iran neither get a proper supply of this consumer good nor can they buy at a reasonable price, a leading businessman who deals in meat supply said yesterday.

Talking to the TEHRAN TIMES he said the official price of meat is Rls. 280 per kilo. Out of that, he said, Rls. 80 per kilo are charged from the butchers and Rls. 200 are paid by the government.

The supply network for meat is so defective that middlemen and smugglers get all the advantages of the situation and the consumers are always faced with shortages and high price.

According to a market survey meat is not available in most of the shops especially in the northern parts of the city. If somewhere it is available its prices range from Rls.300 to Rls. 450 per kilo.

HAMADAN FLOODS CAUSE DEATHS, PROPERTY DAMAGE

WA221300 Tehran TIMES in English 6 Apr 80 p 1

[Text] Tehran--At least two persons were reported dead and hundreds of villagers rendered homeless in severe floods in the Hamadan Province, reports reaching here said yesterday.

Two persons died when a bridge on a river in the Razan district was washed away in the flood which caused heavy loss to property and livestock in this region.

The Red Lion and Sun Society has rushed rescue and relief operation teams to the flood stricken areas in this province and all provincial authorities have been alerted to provide necessary help to the flood victims in the villages cut off by floods. They have been instructed to take necessary measures to minimize loss to life and property in the flood affected areas.

WARNING ISSUED TO 'UN-ISLAMIC' ENTERTAINERS

WA221830 Tehran TIMES in English 6 Apr 80 p 1

[Text] Tehran--The anticorruption society announced yesterday that all cabarets, restaurants, coffee houses, theaters and hotels would be closed down if they did not refrain from corrupting the morals of the Islamic society in this country in diverse ways.

According to Pana the society in a last warning said that all these centers had no beneficial role in Islamic society other than the moral, social, economic and religious loss to the people.

These centers which were not permissible according to the Holy Koran will not be allowed to cause damage to Islam and the revolution, the warning said.

The society has also urged the government and the theological seminary of Oom to keep a vigilant watch over the activities of these places of entertainment in a bid to prevent the return of Aryamehri culture in the country.